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News Tracker ... What's new with old news

Nation

Airport screening: A new device that scans documents for traces of explosives has made its debut at four of the busiest U.S. airports, where officials will use it to screen selected passengers.

Federal security screeners started testing the equipment Wednesday at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago.

It is also being used to detect chemical residue on the surface of items such as wallets, passports and airline boarding passes.

Dozens of chemicals could trigger the scanners, including nitroglycerin taken by heart patients, fertilizer and gunpowder residue.

Peterson trial: Scott Peterson altered his appearance and loaded his car with cash in the days before he was charged with murdering his pregnant wife, an agent with the state Department of Justice testified.

Special Agent Alex Quick, who tailed Peterson just before his arrest on April 18, 2003, a few days after the bodies of his wife and her fetus were found, testified Wednesday at Peterson's double-murder trial.

Quick, one of up to 10 agents who followed Peterson, told jurors that the former fertilizer salesman had altered his appearance, bleaching his dark hair and eyebrows blonde and growing a thick goatee.

Cuba sanctions: A day after moving to nullify the Bush administration's new rules restricting family travel to Cuba, the House on Wednesday voted to remove barriers to agriculture sales and student exchanges in the island nation.

But, as in past years, actions by both the House and Senate to ease decades of economic and social sanctions imposed on Cuba are expected to make little headway against an administration determined not to make life easier for the Fidel Castro government.

The White House has threatened to veto a \$90 billion Transportation and Treasury Department spending bill if it contains any language to weaken sanctions. The bill, for fiscal 2005 programs, passed 397-12.

Louisiana serial killer: A mental health expert has found Louisiana serial killings suspect Derrick Todd Lee to be mentally retarded, a lawyer said Tuesday in a new twist that could be used to try to spare Lee a possible death penalty.

Public defender Mike Mitchell made the announcement as jury selection continued for Lee's first-degree murder trial in the



International space station: From left, Russian cosmonaut Yuri Shargin and Salizhan Sharipov and American astronaut Leroy Chiao smile before the start of their training session at the mock-up of a Soyuz TMA space craft outside Moscow on Tuesday. The 10th crew slated to travel to the international space station in October entered the final stages of training, undergoing tests in a scale model of the orbiting station. The crew will conduct experiments to research new AIDS vaccines and plant growth, and they will work on new space vehicles that will help future missions to the moon and Mars.

beating and stabbing death of 22-year-old Charlotte Murray Pace.

World

Charges against Mexican pop star: Minutes after Mexican pop idol Gloria Trevi was cleared of rape and kidnapping charges and freed from prison, she broke into song and announced she was releasing a new record.

But it may be months before Trevi returns to show business. Prosecutors on Wednesday were considering whether to appeal her acquittal in the border state of Chihuahua and she still faces criminal complaints in Mexico City.

Prosecutors accused the 36-year-old pop star, two of her backup singers and her manager, Sergio Andrade, of luring young girls into their entourage and then sexually abusing them.

North Korea testing missile: Japan said Thursday it had obtained intelligence indicating that North Korea may be preparing to test fire a short-range missile that could reach most of the main Japanese islands, in

what would be the latest provocation from the communist country.

Government officials convened an emergency task-force team in the prime minister's office after intelligence showed that North Korea appeared to be beefing up troops and equipment around missile launch bases, said Shigemitsu Terui, spokesman at the prime minister's office.

South Korea said missile-related activities had been detected in the North by the American and South Korean militaries.

Gaza Strip unrest: Three Palestinian gunmen infiltrated a fog-shrouded Israeli army post at dawn Thursday, killing three Israeli soldiers in a fierce gunbattle before they were shot to death, the army said.

Hours later, the Israeli army blew up an abandoned house near a Gaza Strip settlement, sending large plumes of smoke in the air.

The attack comes as Prime Minister Ariel Sharon faces mounting opposition to his plan to withdraw from all Gaza Strip and four West Bank settlements by September 2005.

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Troops mixed on anti-prostitution proposal

BY DAVID ALLEN
Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — Reaction of troops throughout Japan was mixed regarding the Defense Department's proposal to make it a court-martial offense to solicit or otherwise use the services of a prostitute, even in countries where the world's oldest profession is either legal or largely winked at by the local authorities.

The maximum punishment being considered for conviction, under the Uniform Code of Military Justice's Article 134, the General Article, would be one year in prison and dishonorable discharge.

"It's a good thing," said Marine Staff Sgt. Jamie Byrd, 31, of the 9th Engineer Support Battalion on Camp Hansen. "It will help prevent a lot of the younger Marines from going out and catching diseases and other stuff. Also, being with a prostitute in some countries could be a security issue."

"A Marine missing duty because he's been infected from contact with a prostitute affects combat readiness," said Byrd's friend, Staff Sgt. Michael Hutchinson, 29, of the same unit. "It takes away from being able to carry out our mission and puts stress on those of us who'll have to pick up the slack."

Some also wonder whether the passing of the law actually will be enough to alter the behavior of young servicemen.

"I think you're going to have a lot of young Marines getting into trouble," said Sgt. Mike Bundy, 24, of H&S Battalion, Camp Foster. "Look, young guys aren't going to change

their behavior and prostitution is pretty open in places like Korea, Thailand, Australia. It's even illegal in the States and it still happens."

"This is just going to be one more thing they can bring down on young Marines and get them into trouble. I'm pretty sure whoever is pressing for this has some good thoughts behind it," he said. "But let's face it, part of seeing the world is seeing the girls."

A 44-year-old civilian contractor who spent 13 years in the Marines said, "It's just crazy. It's going to be damn hard to enforce."

"I thought they already had a law on the books to cover that," said Joseph Kozerski, 60, a 21-year Navy veteran who owns a movie rental shop near Camp Foster. "But if it keeps the kids from getting ripped off or drugged or a venereal disease, then it's a good thing to make the rules stronger."

"I know that when young sailors and Marines get liberty somewhere like the Philippines or Thailand, they'd run amok like pirates and then come back to Okinawa still in that mode and wind up getting into serious trouble," he said. "Maybe this will prevent some of that."

"Of course, if I was still young and dumb I'd be screaming about it," he joked.

Sasebo sailors, at least those interviewed Thursday, weren't happy with the proposed toughening of the law.

"I don't think it should be a career-ending offense because I see a lot of people do things that jeopardize their life or others," said Petty Officer 3rd Class Teta Genke, a master-at-arms at Sasebo Naval Base. "If someone is stupid enough to pay for prostitution then they're taking on that responsibility to pay the consequences of STDs (sexually transmitted diseases) and whatever comes with that."

"I don't think the military should totally kick them out because of that," she said. "It happens a lot more often than people think, so there would be a lot of people getting kicked out."

Petty Officer 3rd Class Terrence Hampton, from Assault Craft Unit Five, also in Sasebo, agreed

with Genke.

"It shouldn't be such a serious offense. I don't think it should be a career-ending thing," he said. "I mean, someone could lose an entire Navy career over a single sexual act. Maybe they should go to mast, or be put on restriction, but losing your whole Navy career?"

"Say you have 10 years in, maybe 20, and you get caught," he added. "Then everything you've accomplished just goes down the drain. I don't think that's right, man."

At Yokosuka Naval Base, sailors interviewed about the UCMJ change were wary about their full names being used concerning such a sensitive subject.

"What's the Navy coming to?" said Seaman Wilson, who asked that his first name not be used so he could speak freely. He said making sex-for-hire a crime under the UCMJ was a bad idea, even with the best of intentions.

A Kitty Hawk sailor who also declined to be named said, "You go to sea three months, your wife is in the States or you don't have a wife, or you go to war... most of the people, when they get back, they were drinking and hiring (prostitutes). It's just going to add to the overall stress in the military."

Before he found a girlfriend and a meaningful relationship, he said, he also hired prostitutes. "I always regretted it. It was an empty act," he said.

Seaman Veronica Dinse, however, said she agreed with the proposal. "I think it should be illegal," she said, noting that in all U.S. states but Nevada, men who hire prostitutes are subject to arrest. She said she thought a ban on male sailors hiring prostitutes might increase the respect that female sailors are accorded.

"No, it wouldn't," countered seaman Alicia Sterling, "because [female sailors] are the only ones left to mess with."

The sailors wondered how such a provision would be enforced; some said they didn't think it would have a big effect.

"Something like this... who's going to listen?" Wilson said. "A man has needs..."

Greg Tyler and Nancy Montgomery contributed to this report.

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"Someone could lose an entire Navy career over a single sexual act."

Petty Officer 3rd Class Terrence Hampton



PHOTOS BY GREG TYLER/Stars and Stripes

Above: Frank DeSilva, public affairs specialist for Sasebo Naval Base's Morale, Welfare and Recreation department, tries out one of the new theater chairs being installed Tuesday at the Showboat Theater. The theater is undergoing a \$425,000 renovation. **Right:** MWR employees wait to begin unpacking the new, wider chairs.



Showboat playing movies again in renovated theater

BY GREG TYLER
Stars and Stripes

SASEBO NAVAL BASE, Japan — The Showboat Theater on the main base facility here recently completed the first phase of a \$425,000 renovation and was to begin showing movies again Saturday.

The theater now is offering wider seats with cup holders, a new brand of popcorn, a new interior paint job and a new way to pay coupled with head-of-the-line privileges, said Morale, Welfare and Recreation community activities manager Dave Wagner from inside the theater Wednesday.

Wagner said patrons taking part in an MWR customer ap-

praisal system about a year ago identified five aspects of attending movies at the Showboat as bothersome:

- The chairs were filthy, too small and had no cup holders.
- The inside of the theater was dull and unattractive.
- The popcorn was terrible.

■ There was no way to purchase advance tickets.

■ The lobby was too small to accommodate both ticket buyers and snack purchasers.

"We painted the inside very dark so when the lights are off and a movie is being shown, it will be that much better to watch at the Showboat," said theater manager John Stemen.

The thick-cushioned for-

est-green chairs, about four inches wider than the old red seats, have cup holders on each armrest, which should make juggling drinks, candy boxes and popcorn easier for customers.

"And the cup holders will make the theater that much easier for us to clean up a day of movies and people spilling drinks when they had to sit them on the floor," Stemen said.

Wednesday, 337 new theater seats were boxed and piled high on the stage and behind the seating area. Contractors installed the seats row-by-row starting that night so the theater could open Thursday afternoon.

The first movie set for the opening is "Thunderbirds." Mov-

ies continue through the day and evening with "Yu-Gi-Oh," and "Harold & Kumar Go to White Castle" completing the slate.

MWR promises the popcorn will be easier on the palate.

"That one [complaint about popcorn] was really true. Trying to save some money, we bought a cheaper type of popcorn, and it really wasn't very good," Wagner said. "So, we're rid of that type and we're purchasing a much tastier brand. I guess you get what you pay for."

This week MWR also announced the Cine-Pass program. "Adults and children can purchase movie passes good for seven shows for \$21 and \$14, respectively," Stemen said. "In

each case, the eighth movie is free."

He said Cine-Pass holders can go directly to the front of the line, where their Cine-Pass cards will be stamped and they can be admitted.

The passes are on sale now at the Showboat Theater and other MWR locations.

Later this year, the renovation's final phase occurs as the lobby and food-service area is extended from the current entrance to the street — easily making the lobby another 15 yards deeper.

"This is nice. When it's all done, this'll be a state-of-the-art spot to watch movies and hold other events," Wagner said.

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Rumsfeld: Time line key to base closures

BY SANDRA JONTZ

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The two Pentagon plans of repositioning overseas troops to U.S. bases and the next round of likely base closures go hand-in-hand and may be on the current time line in order for either to work, Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said Thursday during a congressional hearing.

When asked by Virginia Republican John Warner, chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, whether he'd support a delay, Rumsfeld said: "It would be most unfortunate for any delay in BRAC (Base Realignment and Closure), which would delay forces being returned to the United States," Rumsfeld said.

Warner concurred, saying during his opening remarks that it is "imperative that we stay on that time timetable."

Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry has said he would delay the base closure process if elected.

"What I've called for is to stop the BRAC process temporarily, I want to make certain that we are re-evaluating precisely what America's military needs are in this new structure," Kerry, a senator from Massachusetts, told Stripes on Aug. 6.

Last month President Bush announced a broad plan to shift, over the next 10 years,

some 70,000 troops and 100,000 family members and civilian employees from overseas to stateside installations. With that repositioning, the military intends to shut down 200, or some 35 percent, of its overseas installations and facilities, from major bases to a plot of land with a radio antenna on it, Rumsfeld said.

The senators were given detailed plans of the Pentagon's three-year plan, listing several options of troop movements, plans that contained exact numbers of troops to be returned and where Pentagon officials would like to place them. The plans are classified.

Returning troops will need a place to go, Rumsfeld said, stressing the importance of keeping the BRAC process on schedule so that it does not delay the plans involving posture.

Instead of maintaining Cold War-era bases in Western European countries, the military wants to shift to "warm bases," for example, in cooperative Middle East countries — erecting bare-bones facilities to where troops can deploy to fight contingencies and then leave when no longer needed, he said. More rudimentary facilities can be built in African countries, which also can be used for training.

Sen. Joe Lieberman, D-Conn., and some other committee members expressed concerns of reducing U.S. forces in South Korea by about 12,500. "When North Korea ... seems



Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld, left, follows Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., out of a briefing Wednesday in Washington. Rumsfeld told the Senate Armed Services Committee that plans to reposition overseas troops will be successful if his preferred timetable is adhered to.

to be in an aggressive and unpredictable situation, why would we not have those concerns?" Lieberman asked Army Gen. Leon J. LaPorte, commander of U.S. Forces Korea. "Why would we not be worried that we have 12,500 fewer troops on the ground?"

That's because numbers don't equal capability, said LaPorte, who testified at the hearing with fellow combatant commanders Gen. James Jones from European Command and Adm. Thomas Fargo of Pacific Command. Air Force Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, also testified.

Not only has the United States boosted its capabilities to defend the Korean peninsula through high-tech equipment, but also some need to underestimate the effectiveness of the South Korean army, LaPorte said.

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Blaze damages Yokota housing

Tower evacuated for early-morning fire

Stars and Stripes

An early-morning fire in a hallway bathroom prompted evacuation of residents in a Yokota Air Base high-rise tower Thursday, a fire department official said.

No one was injured, he said, but an occupant in the hallway where the fire was examined by a doctor.

The fire caused about \$20,000 in damages to U.S. government property and \$5,000 worth of damages to personal property, the official said.

The fire was in unit 2C on the second floor of Building 4006, a 9-story housing tower on the base's west side. The fire department received the call about 3:55 a.m., according to Mark Lawler, fire chief, 374th Civil Engineer Squadron.

With no one at home, the fire had begun to spread. But it the building's pipe sprinkler system controlled it until firefighters from Engine 12, on the base's west side, extinguished it with a hose, he said.

Residents were allowed back in the building about one hour after emergency personnel arrived.

Several residents expressed concern about why the fire alarms did not ring on upper floors, a witness said.

Lawler said, "The high-rise family housing tower fire evacuation alarm systems are designed to alert only three floors: the fire floor, the floor below and the floor above."

U.S. sending 1,100 troops to Afghanistan

Stars and Stripes

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon is sending up to 1,100 soldiers to Afghanistan to assist in security before the Oct. 9 presidential election there, according to a report in Thursday's U.S. Today.

The deployment is in response to growing violence as the election nears, the report states. More than 900 people have died in political violence across Afghanistan this year.

The troops from the Army's 82nd Airborne Division began arriving in Afghanistan on Wednesday. The Associated Press reported. This brings the number of U.S. troops in that country to more than 18,000.

Maj. Amy Hannah, a spokesperson for the 82nd Airborne, told USA Today that troops have begun leaving Fort Bragg, N.C., for Afghanistan, and "there is no specific time period" for their deployment.

The British are reportedly considering sending up to 8,000 soldiers to Afghanistan. However, this will be offset by the withdrawal of an equal contingent from Iraq. British soldiers in Afghanistan number only a few hundred among the NATO-led international security force.

Afghan President Hamid Karzai had requested 5,300 NATO troops to help provide security in the run-up to the vote, USA Today reported. But, only 1,800 have been promised, and most have not yet arrived. They will

Members of 82nd Airborne begin to arrive to secure coming election

augment the 6,500 NATO forces now in Kabul and some nearby villages.

Before the deployment of the 82nd Airborne troops, there were about 17,900 U.S. troops in Afghanistan, backed by Army and Marine helicopter gunships and Air Force B-1 and A-10 aircraft. At least 97 U.S. troops have been killed and about 360 have been wounded.

U.S. troops killed three militants in fighting in southern Afghanistan, while a rocket attack on the main American base south of the capital wounded a U.S. soldier, officials said Thursday.

Two suspected Taliban died in a gunbattle with American forces late Wednesday in Uruzgan province, a hot spot for U.S. troops battling Taliban militants, the local mayor said.

Shooting broke out near a village called Poshakan after the two men refused to stop their motorbike when asked by U.S. forces, said Mayor Haji Obaidullah.

He identified one of the men as local Taliban commander Mullah Dur Mohammad.

Obaidullah said Afghan forces arrested another Taliban commander, Mullah Usman, during a

search operation on Tuesday in nearby Kalatak village.

The fighting came on the heels of a series of incidents Monday that left three U.S. soldiers dead and 14 wounded, underlining Afghanistan's fragile security less than three weeks before national elections, which Taliban rebels have vowed to disrupt.

The Department of Defense identified the dead as Spc. Wesley R. Wells, 21, of Libertyville, Ill., Staff Sgt. Robert S. Goodwin, 35, of Albany, Ga., and Staff Sgt. Tony B. Olas, 30, of Wallhalla, S.C.

In another incident on Wednesday, three rockets were fired at Bagram Air Base, the hub of U.S. military operations.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

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Cease: Violence must not derail election

U.S. won't give in to Iraq militant demands; Baghdad fighting continues

BY KIM HOUSEGO
The Associated Press

BAGHDAD — Iraq's most powerful Shiite cleric, Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, said that increasing violence must not be used as a pretext for delaying elections scheduled for late January.

Meanwhile, authorities insisted on Thursday that they won't give in to militants' demands to free female Iraqi prisoners despite the plea of a fearful British hostage begging Britain to save his life in a video released by his captors.

Al-Sistani "stresses the necessity of holding elections on time and the necessity of preparing the atmosphere ... under international supervision to be credible and transparent," Hamed al-Khafaf, an aide to the ayatollah, said Thursday in a telephone interview from Beirut.

Iraq's Shiite majority is eager to hold elections since they expect to dominate whatever government emerges. U.N. chief Kofi Annan, however, has questioned whether elections can take place if violence does not ease.

A top U.S. general said Pentagon officials were not ruling out that more U.S. troops will be needed to secure January's elections.

"I think we will need more troops than we currently have," Gen. John Abizaid, commander of U.S. troops in the region, said Wednesday. But, he said, Pentagon officials believe the need will be filled by Iraqis or international forces.

When asked about Abizaid's comment, President Bush said Abizaid was in his office Thursday morning and did not mention the need for more troops. "But if he were to say that, I'd listen to him," Bush said.

Violence has intensified in recent weeks

U.S. deaths in Iraq

The Associated Press

As of Wednesday, 1,037 members of the U.S. military have died since the beginning of the Iraq war in March 2003, according to the Defense Department. Of those, 787 died as a result of hostile action and 250 died of nonhostile causes. The figures include three military civilians.

The British military has reported 65 deaths; Italy, 19; Poland, 13; Spain, 11; Bulgaria, six; Ukraine, eight; Slovakia, three; Thailand, two; the Netherlands, two; and Denmark, El Salvador, Estonia, Hungary and Latvia have reported one death each.

Since May 1, 2003, when President Bush declared that major combat operations in Iraq had ended, 899 U.S. military members have died — 678 as a result of hostile action and 221 of nonhostile causes, according to the military's numbers Wednesday.

The latest deaths reported by the military:

■ A soldier was killed Wednesday when a vehicle bomb exploded near a traffic control point in Baghdad.

■ A soldier died Wednesday of injuries from an earlier attack in Mosul.

■ A soldier was killed Wednesday in an explosion during an attack near Tikrit.

The latest identifications reported by the military:

■ Marine Lance Cpl. Steven C. T. Cates, 22, Mount Juliet, Tenn.; killed Monday in Anbar province, Iraq; assigned to 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, 1 Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif.

■ Army Spc. Joshua J. Henry, 21, Avonmore, Pa.; killed Monday after his company was attacked near Sharqat, Iraq; assigned to the 1st Battalion, 7th Field Artillery Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, Schweinfurt, Germany.

The fighting and rash of kidnappings have shown the vulnerability even in the capital, where British hostage Kenneth Bigley and two American colleagues were abducted from their home last week. The two Americans were beheaded — their slayings shown on grisly videos posted on the Internet — and their bodies dumped not far from their Baghdad residence.

In a video made public Wednesday, Bigley appealed to British Prime Minister Tony Blair to intervene and meet his kidnappers' demands.

"I think this is possibly my last chance," he said. "I don't want to die."

Bigley's brother, Paul, accused the United States of wrecking efforts to save his brother's life after U.S. officials and Alawi quickly quashed a comment by an Iraqi official that one of the female prisoners would be freed by Thursday.

"That was a shadow of light in a big, long, dark, damp, filthy, cold tunnel. Now this has been sabotaged," Paul Bigley told the British Broadcasting Corp. on Thursday.

Bigley's wife appealed to the kidnappers to release her husband.

Sombat Bigley, a Thai woman, said she had seen the video with Bigley's plea for help.

"We have been married for seven years and I love him very much. ... I desperately want to be reunited with my husband," she said, reading a Thai-language statement at a press conference in Bangkok.

The 62-year-old Bigley was being held by a militant group led by Jordanian-born terrorist mastermind Abu Musab al-Zarqawi. The group already has beheaded Americans Eugene Armstrong and Jack Hensley, demanding the release of all female prisoners in Iraq.

Two high-profile female security detainees are in custody — Ribah Rashid Taha, a scientist who became known as "Dr. Germ" for helping Iraq make weapons out of anthrax, and Huda Salih Mahdi Ammash, a biotech researcher known as "Mrs. Anthrax."

A dispute broke out Wednesday when Iraqi Prime Minister Ayad Allawi's Justice Ministry announced that Taha would be freed on bail "Wednesday or Thursday" because she was no longer a threat to national security.

But the U.S. Embassy and Alawi quickly said the women would not be released soon. Allawi underlined that U.S. and Iraqi authorities would not give in to hostage-takers' demands.

War-damaged bridge over Tigris River reopened

BY JACKIE SPINNER
The Washington Post

TIKRIT, Iraq — The Americans spared few expenses on ceremony Wednesday. Balloons soared over the Tigris River, a U.S. Army band pumped out the Iraqi national anthem, and red, white and black ribbon — representing the colors of the Iraqi flag — stretched across the newly repaired Tikrit Bridge.

Tribal sheiks in traditional robes and municipal officials in dark Western suits lined up to march across the bridge to formally mark the completion of the \$5.4 million, U.S.-funded project.

An Iraqi police car began slowly leading the procession toward a group of waiting Americans: troops from the 1st Infantry Division and representatives of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) and its main contractor in Iraq, Bechtel.

So it went on the day that the Tikrit Bridge reopened. 18 months after U.S. warplanes bombed it in order to cut a crucial transportation link between the cities of Tikrit and Kirkuk in northern Iraq.

The two-lane span is the third war-damaged bridge that USAID has restored and reopened. The agency has surveyed 40 others

but has no immediate plans to fix them, citing a Bush administration decision to shift some money away from public works and reconstruction to security programs in an effort to deal with an unrelenting insurgency.

The pace of reconstruction has left many Iraqis and their new leaders dissatisfied; the work continues, but at a pace that they consider disappointing.

"We need more projects," Hamad Humood Shaqti, the governor of Tikrit, said even as he expressed pleasure at the reopening of the bridge. "We need more bridges, more hospitals. We need sewage systems in every village and town in the city."

The Bush administration asked Congress this month for permission to divert \$3.5 billion from public works and other long-term rebuilding projects to security needs, including the training and equipping of additional Iraqi police. Part of the reallocated money would go toward addressing unemployment, planning elections and repairing facilities for oil production, the nation's single most important source of revenue.

At the bridge ceremony on Wednesday, James Stephenson, the USAID director in Iraq, said his agency would actually get a



LATVP

The Tikrit Bridge, a vital link between Tikrit and the northern Iraqi city of Kirkuk, reopened on Wednesday after a \$5.4-million U.S.-funded reconstruction project to repair damage from American warplanes last year.

boost from the reallocation, which he said was not yet finalized.

The reconstruction of the bridge, which spans the Tigris at the hometown of deposed president Saddam Hussein, reflects many of the challenges of rebuilding Iraq, where harsh physical conditions and insurgent attacks can complicate even simple projects.

The bridge had suffered major damage in two places, requiring replacement of six girders, its deck, guard rails and lights. And there was another problem, said Terry Valenzano, Iraq program

director for Bechtel National Inc., the San Francisco-based contractor for USAID. "We couldn't find the original plans," he said.

Work started 11 months ago and initially progressed without major disruption. Insurgents at the time were targeting U.S. troops and their Iraqi allies. They largely left U.S. reconstruction companies alone and were not targeting Iraqi laborers.

This spring, the river rose to flood levels, washing over one of the piers and sweeping away some scaffolding.

By then, insurgent attacks in the area had intensified. The U.S.

military base next to the bridge was being hit by mortars and other weapons.

About a month ago, three employees of 77 Construction, the Kirkuk-based Iraqi subcontractor on the project, were ambushed and killed on their way to the work site, said Unit Tula, project manager for the company. A fourth worker was shot while working on the bridge.

In spite of the difficulties, the bridge reopened, and the governor of Tikrit pledged that work and reconstruction would continue. "We are waiting for more promising projects in the future," Shaqti said.

Allawi thanks Americans for Iraq sacrifices

BY JENNIFER LOVEN

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Standing before Iraq's interim leader, President Bush contended Thursday that insurgents could "plot and plan attacks elsewhere, in America and other free nations," if the United States pulled out.

Bush said his top commander there has not asked for more troops but if he did, "I'd listen to him."

After meeting with interim Prime Minister Ayad Allawi, Bush said he expects violence in Iraq to escalate as the country moves toward elections scheduled for January. Even so, Allawi said more foreign troops are not needed.

"To have more troops, we don't need," he said, suggesting that Iraq instead should train its own security forces.

Allawi addressed Congress — one of his first to a wider audience than those in Iraq — before meeting with Bush.

"We Iraqis know that Americans have made and continue to make enormous sacrifices to liberate Iraq, to assure Iraq's freedom," Allawi said. "I have come here to thank you and to promise you that your sacrifices are not in vain."

Allawi told the joint meeting of Congress that his country is moving successfully past the war that ousted Saddam Hussein and vowed that elections will take place next year as scheduled, "because Iraqis want elections on time."

He cautioned, however, that the election may not come off perfectly. But he assured it will be free and fair, "a giant step" in Iraq's political evolution.

In a clear jab at Democratic op-

ponent John Kerry, Bush said the United States must remain in Iraq to fight insurgents, who he said are part of the global terror threat.

"If we stop fighting the terrorists in Iraq, they would be free to plot and plan attacks elsewhere, in America and other free nations," he said.

Kerry has said that U.S. forces can prevail in Iraq if led properly, and he's set a goal of beginning to withdraw troops within six months of taking office and of being out of Iraq in four years.

Meanwhile, Gen. John Abizaid, commander of U.S. troops in the Middle East, said Wednesday it was possible that more U.S. troops would be needed to secure Iraq's elections, but that Iraqi and perhaps international troops may be able to do the job instead. "I think we will need more troops than we currently have," Abizaid said.



President Bush and Iraq's prime minister, Ayad Allawi, hold a joint news conference Thursday in the Rose Garden at the White House. Allawi, left, says he shares the president's view that things are getting better in his country.

Kerry: Iraqi leader putting 'best face' on bad Bush policy

The Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry said Thursday that Iraq's Ayad Allawi was sent before Congress to put the "best face" on a Bush administration policy that has gone wrong.

Shortly after Allawi, the interim government's prime minister, gave a rosy portrayal of progress toward peace in Iraq, Kerry said the assessment contradicted Allawi's own statements as well as the reality on the ground. "I think the prime minister is, obviously, contradicting his own statement

of a few days ago, where he said the terrorists are pouring into the country," Kerry said.

"The prime minister and the president are here obviously to put their best face on the policy, but the fact is that the CIA estimates, the reporting, the ground operations and the troops all tell a different story."

Kerry was referring to comments Allawi made Sunday on ABC's "This Week." But Allawi also expressed optimism about the mission in that appearance.

"Foreign terrorists are still pouring in, and they're trying to inflict damage on Iraq to under-

mine Iraq and to undermine the process, democratic process in Iraq, and, indeed, this is their last stand," Allawi said.

"So they are putting a very severe fight on Iraq. We are winning. We will continue to win. We are going to prevail."

Allawi told a joint meeting of Congress Thursday that democratic elections will take place in Iraq in January as scheduled, but Kerry said that was unrealistic.

"The United States and the Iraqis have retreated from whole areas of Iraq," Kerry told reporters. "There are no-go zones in Iraq today. You can't hold an elec-

tion in a no-go zone," Kerry said.

President Bush should convene a summit of international leaders to ask for their help in Iraq. He also said the president missed an opportunity to get foreign sup-

port during two days of diplomacy at the United Nations this week. "The president skeddaddled out of New York so quickly he barely had time to talk to any leaders," Kerry said.

Enemy combatant freed

WASHINGTON — A U.S. citizen held since late 2001 as an enemy combatant will be sent back to Saudi Arabia under an agreement between the Justice Department and his lawyers.

Yaser Esam Hamdi must renounce his American citizenship and agree never to travel to certain countries under the agreement announced Wednesday. But Hamdi, whose case led to a Supreme Court decision limiting the president's powers to indefinitely hold wartime combatants, will not face criminal charges.

Hamdi, born in Baton Rouge, La., and raised in Saudi Arabia, will be flown by the Defense Department to Saudi Arabia as soon

as transportation can be arranged.

Spy charge dropped

SAN FRANCISCO — The military dropped an espionage charge against a Muslim inter-

preter accused of spying at a camp for terrorism detainees in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, the third such case to fall apart this year.

Senior Airman Ahmad Al Halabi pleaded guilty to four "minor infractions," said his lawyer, Donald Rehkopf Jr.

From The Associated Press



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IN THE WORLD

Haiti death toll from Jeanne now above 1,100

Hurricane leaves estimated quarter-million homeless

BY AMY BRACKEN
The Associated Press

GONAIVES, Haiti — Hungry, thirsty and increasingly desperate residents burned tires in protest and attacked each other in a panic to get scarce food and water Thursday as workers struggled to bury hundreds of victims of Tropical Storm Jeanne.

More than 1,100 were killed, 1,250 were missing and the toll was still rising Thursday, six days after the storm hit.

Hundreds pushed through a wooden barrier to crowd into the sole working clinic for treatment, but only one doctor was there Thursday morning.

Some residents had grown so desperate to get rid of putrefying corpses they were burying them in their back yards.

Health workers feared an epi-

demic from the unburied bodies and animal carcasses, overflowing sewage, lack of potable water and infections from injuries.

The government's civil protection agency said more than 900 people have been treated, most for gashes from fallen zinc roofs.

Medics from U.N. peacekeeping troops in Gonaives have helped treat the injured.

But the main General Hospital remains out of commission — knee-deep in mud that nurses said hides bodies of dozens of patients — medical supplies are running out and some aid trucks were unable to reach Gonaives on Wednesday because the road was washed away in parts, with other sections blocked by mudslides.

About 250,000 were left homeless in Haiti's northwest province, which includes the port of Gonaives.

"We were saved from the floods but now my baby is sick," said Marilucie Fortune, 30, who gave birth to a son in a storm during the weekend, as Jeanne pounded the city with its torrential rains for some 30 hours.

Workers dug new mass graves for bodies that still littered the city, in mud caking the city, trapped in collapsed homes and floating in floodwaters that still ran knee-deep in some places.

"There are so many bodies, you smell them but you don't see them," said farmer Louise Roland, who like many held a lime to her nose to mask the stench.

In the seaside slum of Carénage, people were burying bodies of unidentified victims in their yards. That could cause yet another health hazard since bodies easily could be forced up from shallow seaside graves.



Two women carry their sons as they walk on the main route to Gonaives, Haiti, on Thursday. The government said that up to 1,250 people were still missing and that the death toll could rise to 2,000 people.

"We need surgical masks, water and food," said Frantz Bernier, who was burning tires to protest the lack of government help. "We don't have anything."

The official toll rose to 1,105 bodies recovered by Thursday — the vast majority in Gonaives — with 1,250 missing and nearly 1,000 injured, according to Djeudor Desrochers, spokesman for the government's civil protection agency.

Police erected barbed wire around their station Thursday after people fired shots at the station overnight. Officer Louis Francois said they feared attack by about 20 inmates who escaped from jail during the storm.

Aid workers fear an eruption of waterborne diseases, especially diarrhea and cholera.

"It's a critical situation in terms of epidemics, because of the bodies still in the streets, be-

cause people are drinking dirty water and scores are getting injuries from debris — huge cuts that are getting infected," said Françoise Gruloos, Haiti director for the U.N. Children's Fund.

The International Federation of Red Cross and Crescent Societies appealed for \$3.3 million to fund relief operations, and several nations were sending help.

Jeanne's rain-laden system proved deadly in Haiti, where more than 98 percent of the land is deforested and torrents of water and mudslides smashed down denuded hills and into the city. Floodwater lulls on buildings went up to 10 feet high.

The disaster follows devastating floods in May, along the Haiti-Dominican Republic border, which left 1,191 dead and 1,484 missing in Haiti and 395 dead and 274 missing on the Dominican side. The countries share the island of Hispaniola.

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Indonesia's president refuses to concede

BY LELY T. DIJHARI
The Associated Press

Incumbent has just 39 percent of vote

JAKARTA, Indonesia — President Megawati Sukarnoputri refused to acknowledge defeat in this week's national elections, but she apologized for her government's shortcomings Thursday and called on the next administration to be "more responsive to the needs of the people."

Megawati told the People's Consultative Assembly that her Cabinet had enacted key democratic reforms, helped decentralize the country's administration and peacefully ended several sectarian and religious conflicts across the archipelago.

But she acknowledged that corruption and terrorism remain problems, saying, "It is hoped that the next government will be more responsive to the needs of the people. For these weaknesses and all the things that have not been finished ... I offer you my deepest apologies."

"The bombing in ... Bali on October 12, 2002, the bombing at the Marriott Hotel in Jakarta in August 5, 2003, as well as the bomb in front of the Australian embassy September 9, 2004, have reinforced our awareness that terror threats must not be underestimated," she said.

Megawati said the government needed to adopt "more effective methods and pro-



Indonesian President
Megawati Sukarnoputri

cedures to handle terrorism."

With 104 million of the estimated 120 million votes cast in Monday's elections counted, challenger Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono had 61 percent to Megawati's 39 percent, according to the General Election Commission.



Presidential candidate
Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono

Despite this, Megawati said she would not concede until official results were announced. That is scheduled to take place on Oct. 5 but could happen earlier given the quick pace of vote counting.

Yudhoyono said he would not formally claim victory until the tally was complete.

The European Union on Thursday joined other international monitors in hailing the election as peaceful and transparent. But they criticized the three-day campaign period as too short and the voting lists as badly managed.

This week's elections capped a year of democracy in Indonesia, where voters chose a new legislature in April before taking part in two rounds of balloting for the president.

The second round of the presidential elections is the culminating event of a historic electoral year that firmly consolidated the democratic reform process in Indonesia," the EU said in a statement.

Yudhoyono, a retired general who served in Megawati's government as security czar, has remained in his home on the outskirts of Jakarta, where aides say he is considering possible Cabinet lineups.

He has so far refused to discuss his agenda, which could disappoint investors who want Yudhoyono to show early signs that he's following through on promises to tackle corruption, restore economic health and take a tougher stance on terrorism.

Indonesia, which is home to more Muslims than any other country in the world, is saddled with almost 40 percent unemployment and rampant corruption, and has been hit by three terror attacks by al-Qaida-linked militants in the past two years.

Russia eyes Kyoto

MOSCOW — The Russian government has asked five ministries to approve ratification of the controversial Kyoto protocol, which seeks to reduce emissions of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases believed to contribute to global warming, officials said Thursday.

The European Union has urged Russia to ratify the 1997 protocol. But opponents have argued that it will stifle the nation's economic growth, derailing President Vladimir Putin's plan of doubling Russia's gross domestic product in 10 years.

The World Wildlife Fund said that Putin had instructed key ministers to sign off on the documents last week. The documents could be ratified by the parliament within the "next few weeks," the WWF said in a statement.

Opium in Afghanistan

MOSCOW — President Vladimir Putin said Thursday that U.S.-led forces in Afghanistan were doing "almost nothing" to stem the flow of drugs from that country.

Since the fall of the Taliban regime in 2001, Afghanistan's opium production has risen dramatically and much of it makes its way to Western Europe via Central Asia and Russia. The cultivation of opium poppies was largely eliminated under the Taliban, but farmers have gone back to the profitable crop.

"They are doing almost nothing there even to lessen the drug threat," Putin said.

U.N. surveys estimate Afghanistan accounted for three-quarters of the world's opium last year, and the trade brought in \$2.3 billion.

From The Associated Press

Rebel group favors U.N. sanctions against Sudan

BY ELLEN KNICKMEYER
The Associated Press

NJAMENA, Chad — One of western Sudan's main rebel movements endorsed proposed U.N. sanctions against Sudan, saying Thursday that only such pressure would force the government to stop the killing in Darfur.

Two political leaders of the Sudan Liberation Army spoke to The Associated Press in the capital of Chad, the western neighbor of Sudan, days after the U.N. Security Council resolved to consider oil sanctions on Sudan over the government's alleged backing for ethnic cleansing in Darfur.

"Sanctions will help pressure this government, will help this government come to its senses," said Sharif Harir, who was chief negotiator for the Sudan Liberation Army at the failed peace talks in Nigeria.

"The government is using this oil revenue to buy weapons, guns, (Russian) Antonovs (planes) to kill our people. So I have to support the sanctions," said Adam Shogar, another of the rebel group's leaders.

In an 11-0 vote on Saturday with four abstentions — China, Russia, Pakistan and Algeria — the Security Council said it would meet again to consider sanctions against Sudan's petroleum sector, or other measures, if Sudan did not act quickly to stop the violence in Darfur and bring the perpetrators to justice.

The resolution also authorized U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan to appoint a commission to investigate reports of human rights violations in Darfur and determine "whether or not acts of genocide have occurred," as the United States and others have

charged.

Sudanese President Omar el-Bashir shrugged off the U.N. resolution, saying his government was not afraid of it. The Foreign Ministry said that while the resolution was flawed, the government would try "to bring the situation to normal in Darfur."

The conflict in western Sudan began in February 2003 when the Sudan Liberation Army and a second rebel group, the Justice and Equity Movement, started attacking state targets, accusing the central government of neglect and discrimination. Both groups hail from Darfur's people of African origin.

The government and its allied Arab militia, the Janjaweed, are accused of retaliating by waging a campaign against Darfur's non-Arab people, driving an estimated 1.4 million Sudanese Africans from their homes. U.N. officials believe that more than 50,000 people have died in the conflict.

Critics of sanctions as a diplomatic weapon say they create hardship for a country's people while doing little to force change.

Harir said that in Sudan, only the ruling elite controls oil and the oil wealth, and only they would be suffer from U.N. sanctions.

As for sanctions hurting the people, "One-point-four million people are without homes. What more hardship is there than that?" Harir asked rhetorically.

The peace talks at which Harir represented his group broke down last week with the two sides agreeing to no more than to meet again at an unspecified date.

Harir said he was confident that the U.N. investigation would find that genocide has been com-

mitted in Darfur.

"There aren't any Arabs in those refugee camps," he said of the displaced people in Darfur and across the border in neighboring Chad.

The other rebel group, the Justice and Equity Movement, has not commented publicly on the threat of sanctions. Its leaders could not be reached for comment Thursday.

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Goss confirmed to head CIA

BY KATHERINE PFLEGER
SHRADER

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The Republican-led Senate approved President Bush's choice to head the CIA, Rep. Porter Goss, over protests from some Democrats who said he has too many Republican ties for a job that requires independence.



Goss

The nomination of the Florida congressman, who had planned to retire after eight terms, was confirmed Wednesday by a vote of 77-17. A former CIA and Army intelligence officer during the 1960s, Goss would be only the second congressman to take the helm of the CIA, following former President and House

member George H.W. Bush, the current president's father.

President Bush, who nominated Goss to the post, called him "a leader with strong experience in intelligence and in the fight against terrorists" and "the right man" to take over the agency as the administration implements intelligence reforms.

Goss, 65, will lead an intelligence community that has faced intense criticism for failures prior to the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks and for its prewar estimates on Iraq. Yet defenders say the 15 agencies that make up the U.S. intelligence network have become more focused and made changes to address international terrorism and other threats.

During six hours of debate, Sen. Jay Rockefeller, the senior Democrat on the intelligence panel, questioned whether Goss would be politically objective and outlined a series of attacks Goss has made on the Democratic Party and its presidential nominee, Sen. John Kerry.

They included what Rockefeller considered unfair accusations from Goss that Kerry led the way to "deep and devastating" intelligence budget cuts in the 1990s.

Rockefeller said the law requires the director of central intelligence to provide timely and objective intelligence, independent of political considerations.

"Not surprisingly, one thing missing from Representative Goss's records are any public statements on intelligence critical of members of his own party or the administration," Rockefeller said.

While Goss has promised not to be a partisan Republican as CIA director, "I must vote on his record. I cannot vote on his promise."

Should Kerry be elected president, he would be expected to pick a different CIA director. Neither Kerry nor his running mate, Sen. John Edwards, voted on the confirmation.



AP

The wreckage of a single-engine plane that crashed Monday is seen strewn in the Great Bear Wilderness near Essex, Mont. Three people died in the crash; two survived.

Survivors emerge from plane crash

The Associated Press

KALISPELL, Mont. — Two days after they were reported killed in a plane crash, two Forest Service employees emerged from the wilderness, astonishing their relatives and baffling rescuers still picking through the charred wreckage.

Jodee Hogg, 23, of Billings, and Matthew Ramige, 29, of Jackson, Hole, Wyo., were spotted along a high-way Wednesday, nearly 48 hours after the wreck that killed three others, officials said.

"You can't believe the elation," said Jim Hogg, Jodee's father. Hogg was hospitalized in stable condition Thursday, while Ramige was in intensive care in serious condition.

Flathead County Sheriff Jim Dupont learned there were survivors Wednesday while at the crash site on a mountain south of Glacier National Park, where he had been sifting through the burned wreckage and human remains.

"It's just an unbelievable miracle. You look at that crash site, that wreckage, you'd never believe anyone could have survived," he said.

The single-engine aircraft under contract to the Forest Service left Kalispell on Monday on a 30-minute flight to the Great Bear-Bob Marshall Wilderness Complex.

The four passengers planned to conduct an annual vegetation inventory and repair telecommunications facilities. The plane was last heard from 15 minutes

later, during stormy weather. Dupont said the aircraft went from more than 100 mph to zero in less than 40 feet.

"Who can survive that?" Dupont asked. A fire "literally melted everything."

The dead were identified as pilot Jim Long, 60, of Kalispell; Davita Bryant, 32, a Forest Service worker from Whitefish; and Ken Good, 58, a Flathead forest employee also from Whitefish.

Good managed to get out of the wreckage, but died nearby. His body was recovered late Tuesday. There were three unburned seat belts, the sheriff said. "Now, I know why."

Ramige's mother, Dr. Wendy Becker, visited her son at the hospital, where he was taken for burns.

"I still can't believe it. I can see that he's alive now," she told KOMO-TV for a report posted Thursday on its Web site.

"Can you imagine these families?" asked Bob Bryant, father-in-law of victim Davita Bryant. "They've been told their kids are dead. And now they are resurrected."

Linda Woods, a friend of one victim and survivor Ramige, said she and another person had organized a group to search for survivors but their offer to help was declined Tuesday.

"There were 100 people waiting in Whitefish to do this," she said. "Last night, we sat on the couch and cried instead of being out hiking and searching. And we just accepted what we were told."

Fla. court strikes law keeping woman alive

BY JACKIE HALLIFAX
The Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — The Florida Supreme Court on Thursday struck down a law that was rushed through the Legislature last fall to keep a severely brain-damaged woman hooked up to a feeding tube against her husband's wishes.

The unanimous court said the law that kept Terri Schiavo alive violated the separation of powers between the judicial branch and the legislative and executive branches.

Lower courts had ruled that Michael Schiavo could have the tube removed, but the Legislature passed the law to overrule the courts.

Gov. Jeb Bush then used the law to order the tube reinserted.

George Felo, Michael Schiavo's attorney, said no attempt to remove the tube would be made until the ruling becomes

final. That could be weeks if Bush's attorneys ask the court for a rehearing.

Felos said Michael Schiavo was happy with the ruling and is determined to carry out his wife's wishes.

"It is without question an invasion of the authority of the judicial branch for the Legislature to pass a law that allows the executive branch to interfere with the final judicial determination in a case," Chief Justice Barbara Pariente wrote for the court. "That is precisely what occurred here."

The court said the law improperly delegated legislative powers to the governor, who had complete authority to issue or lift a stay.

Terri Schiavo, who lives in a nursing home, can breathe on her own but relies on feeding and hydration tube to live. Courts have concluded she is in a "persistent vegetative state," but maneuvering over her fate



Terri Schiavo

has produced a closely watched right-to-die fight.

The 40-year-old woman left no written instructions before suffering brain damage when her heart stopped beating 14 years ago.

But in Florida a person's wishes must be honored even if they are expressed orally.

Courts have generally sided with Michael Schiavo, but parents Bob and Mary Schindler have won stays that have kept their daughter alive.

House approves pledge protection

BY JIM ABRAMS
The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The House passed legislation Thursday that would prevent the Supreme Court from ruling on whether the words "under God" should be stricken from the Pledge of Allegiance.

In a politically and emotionally charged debate, Democrats said majority Republicans in the chamber were debating the Constitution in order to force a vote that could hurt Democrats in the election.

Supporters insisted that Congress has always had authority to limit federal court jurisdiction, and the legislation is needed to protect an affirmation of religion that they say is part of the national

heritage.

The bill, which was passed 247-173, would prohibit federal courts, including the Supreme Court, from hearing cases involving the pledge and its recitation and would prevent federal courts from striking the words "under God" from the pledge.

The legislation has little chance of advancing in the Senate this year, but it laid down another major political position seeking to differentiate themselves from their election opponents on the volatile social issues of the day. Other "wedge" issues that have or could come up before the election include gay marriage and flag-burning.

The Supreme Court in June dismissed, on a technicality, a 2002 federal court decision that the religious reference made the pledge unconstitutional.

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Betting on Bettany

Will 'Wimbledon' turn the actor into a star?

By LUANNE LEE

Scripps Howard News Service

British actor Paul Bettany thinks it was his role as the screaming Geoffrey Chaucer in "A Knight's Tale" that first captured America's attention. Bettany, 33, followed that up playing the mysterious friend in "A Beautiful Mind" and the ship's surgeon in "Master and Commander."

But it's his latest role, as the aging tennis champion in "Wimbledon," — which opened in the States on Sept. 17 — that will probably make him a star.

Bettany's father is an actor, his mother is a singer, and he's married to Oscar-winning actress Jennifer Connelly (whom he met on "A Beautiful Mind"), he's the father of a 1-year-old boy and stepfather of a 7-year-old boy.

He talks about his career and life:

What he likes about acting:

"I have the impulse it's probably a sort of awful and childish want to entertain people, I suppose. I also get to learn things, lots of different things. I get to learn little bits of skill — a little bit of the cello or a bit about the natural sciences or a little bit about tennis. When the writing's good I get to learn a little bit about people, so I guess that's what."

Uneasy in his shoes:

"I still think that somebody's going to come and knock on the door and say, 'I'm sorry we meant Paul Bettany' and I go, 'Of course, I'm really sorry. Here's all the

stuff back.' I'm not convinced that it's not all going to go wrong."

Finding roles:

"What I don't like, it's very recently happened. You get offered a job, it happened by mistake on 'A Beautiful Mind.' They offered me the job and [director] Ron Howard hadn't read me. I remember being really nervous because I thought, 'You don't know what you've bought. You're going to see me work and then go, 'Oh, no, let's sack him.'"

"Whereas if I've auditioned for somebody I kind of think it's their fault, if I'm not what they want (he laughs) because they chose me."

Critical moment in his life:

"The death of somebody very close to me. Obviously for every human being, their first real contact with death is awesome, and I mean that in a non-L.A. sense of the word. A shock." (Bettany says it was a relative but won't say who. His younger brother died in a fall when he was 9.)

Maturing through marriage and children:

"It gives you the most incredible perspective. It's funny actually, when you experience death, you're convinced that that's given you perspective, everything seems clear. In actual fact, what made everything really clear — it's actually slightly warped because it's about fear and it's selfish — birth is actually what gave me real perspective."

What observing death taught him:

"I'm a materialist in the sense that I accept the things I can touch and see. I don't believe in

life after death for the same reason I don't believe in Santa Claus, and such thoughts and emotions just end? How can that end? And we're worried about ourselves. You mean our personality is just going to stop and not continue?

It can't be. So it makes complete logical sense to me that people create [God]. But facing it as a materialist, I think that's the bitter pill you swallow in life. And everything can be a daily heart-break; the thought that one day your children will die. That face that fills you with joy, it too will end."

How he got off drugs:

"I just quit. I couldn't do the 12 steps, [because of the religious aspect]. I did it really logically. I stopped and started again a lot before I stopped. I wanted to get myself together and fall in love and have kids."

Once I stopped, life started getting better pretty immediately. It coincided with me getting a film called 'Gangster No. 1' which was the start of a film career for me. And I was straight and able to do a good job."



Paul Bettany and his wife, Jennifer Connelly, attend the Sept. 13 premiere of "Wimbledon" at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in Los Angeles. The couple met on the set of "A Beautiful Mind."

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Buy lunch with an 'Idol' or eBay

"American Idol" finalist Diana DeGarmo is available for lunch.

Proceeds from an auction for the lunch will go to the Partnership Against Child Abuse, a program of the Children's Advocacy Center based in Huntsville, Ala. The auction is being held on the Web site eBay.

The 17-year-old from Snellville was the runner-up to Fantasia Barrino in the popular Fox television singing competition. DeGarmo has been touring with other "Idol" alumni, and she hopes to have her new full-length CD out by the end of the year.

The lunch will be held in Los Angeles or New York. DeGarmo has one year to make good on the dining opportunity, although she'll make every effort to work with the auction winner, according to the auction instructions.

Griffith to unveil statue for show

Andy Griffith comes home to Mount Airy, N.C., on Friday, when he unveils a TV Land statue that's a copy of the one that the cable network placed in Raleigh last fall.

The statue shows Sheriff Andy Taylor (Griffith) and his son, Opie (Ron Howard), from the '60s sitcom "The Andy Griffith Show" walking to the fishing hole.

It will be placed outside the Andy Griffith Playhouse, which once was the Rockford Street Elementary School that Griffith attended.

Griffith's visit will mark the start of the 15th annual Mayberry Days festival.

YOUR MONEY

AOL offers expanded password security

BY ANICK JESDANUN

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Passwords alone won't be enough to get onto America Online under a new, optional log-on service that makes AOL the first major U.S. online business to offer customers a second layer of security.

The so-called two-factor authentication scheme will cost \$1.95 a month in addition to a one-time \$50 fee. It is initially targeted at small businesses, victims of identity theft and individuals who pay a lot of bills and conduct other financial transactions through their AOL accounts.

Subscribers get a matchbook-size device from Bedford, Mass.-based RSA Security Inc. displaying a six-digit code that changes every minute. The code is necessary to log on, so a scammer who guesses or steals a password cannot access the account without the device in hand.

Two-factor authentication — whether through the RSA device, biometrics or cards printed with rotating lists of passwords — is common in Scandinavia, Brazil, Singapore and selected countries. In the United States, its use is largely limited to employees accessing office networks remotely, or people with high-value financial portfolios.

AOL spokesman Andrew Weinstein said the time was ripe to offer it as subscribers move more of their sensitive personal and financial information online.

The offering also comes as scammers increasingly find ways to trick subscribers into giving their passwords by sending e-mail disguised as legitimate information requests.

And with so many sites now requiring passwords, many Internet users have be-



come careless: They create easy-to-remember passwords that tend to be easy to guess — or they write them down on sticky notes and post them at their computers.

By requiring the second, rotating password, "you don't have to remember complicated passwords that have good security," said Scott Schnell, a senior vice president at RSA Security.

The second password will be required for checking e-mail and accessing services tied to the AOL account, including calendars, stock portfolios and AOL's Bix.

It won't protect services offered by third

parties on the open Internet, outside AOL's walled gardens, except in cases where their statements and other sensitive information are sent to the AOL e-mail account. Nor is the second password needed to use AOL Instant Messenger.

Gartner analyst Avitah Liel believes a "very narrow set of consumers" — perhaps 5 percent to 15 percent of AOL's 30 million subscribers — would sign up, "but you have to start somewhere."

She said AOL's offering likely would prompt other Internet service providers and banks to consider such systems more

seriously, though the prevailing belief these days is that customers will find them difficult to use.

Just this summer, HSBC Bank USA began requiring a second password to access its bill-payment services.

That password is entered using an on-screen keypad to thwart snoops who secretly installed software that records keystrokes as they are typed on a regular keyboard.

Unlike AOL's service, though, neither password automatically changes, nor is there a charge.

WEDNESDAY'S MARKET SUMMARY

INDEXES						
52-week	High	Low	Net Chg	% Chg	YTD 52-week	% Chg
10,515.32	9,251.47	Dow Jones Industrial	10,109.15	-15.15	-1.31	-0.75
3,271.62	2,666.65	Dow Jones Transportation	3,194.66	-75.56	-2.34	+0.24
296.45	242.25	Dow Jones Utilities	294.68	-1.17	-0.40	+0.61
6,798.12	6,514.48	NYSE Composite	5,548.56	-44.66	-1.28	+0.68
1,921.12	984.38	Amer. Ind.	1,254.68	-7.65	-0.40	+0.51
1,553.83	1,759.82	Nasdaq Composite	1,485.71	-35.47	-1.85	+0.28
1,133.23	996.30	S&P 500	1,113.56	-15.74	-1.39	+0.15
618.46	507.89	S&P MidCap	581.12	-72.9	-1.21	+0.57
396.42	482.13	Russell 2000	356.89	-11.83	-1.91	+0.61
11,717.14	5,955.20	D. Wilshire 2000	10,861.83	-1.35	-0.57	+0.75

NYSE				
Most Active (\$1.00 OR MORE)	Most Active (\$1.00 OR MORE)	Most Active (\$1.00 OR MORE)	Most Active (\$1.00 OR MORE)	Most Active (\$1.00 OR MORE)
Name	Vol	Net Chg	% Chg	% Chg
Alcoa	2,610	1.33	+0.01	+0.01
Pfizer	2,508	36.20	-0.80	-0.80
Johnson & Johnson	1,879	11.04	+0.01	+0.01
Citigroup	1,842	44.38	-1.21	-0.04
Merck	1,773	61.35	-0.10	-0.01
Novartis	1,703	18.58	-0.50	-0.03
Boeing	1,640	45.45	-0.10	-0.01
Fortune	1,703	76.69	-4.48	-0.04
United Therapeutics	1,309	45.42	-1.71	-0.04

KEY DEFENSE STOCKS					
Name	Vol	PE	Last	Chg	% Chg
Aircraft Technologies	-	14	56.46	-0.88	-0.01
Airbus	-	17	34.82	-0.80	-0.02
Boeing	-	17	53.68	-1.82	-0.03
General Dynamics	-	17	46.81	-1.82	-0.03
Raytheon	-	17	46.81	-1.82	-0.03
Northrop Grumman	-	17	46.81	-1.82	-0.03
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SATURDAY EVENING / SEPTEMBER 25, 2004

MOVIES

SPORTS

J	6PM	6:30	7PM	7:30	8PM	8:30	9PM	9:30	10PM	10:30	11PM	11:30
6	AFN-P	Headline News #ESPNs	My Wife and Kids "The Baby Home childbirth" (Part 2)	Half & Half Morn talk about a dream (CC)	CSI: Miami "The Best Defense" A masked gunman opens fire at a bar, killing two men and wounding one. (CC)	Law & Order: Special Victims Unit "Conceder" Boy, a doctor from his bed in the middle of the night. (CC)	Headline News	Saturday Night Live (CC)				
7	AFN-AT	Radio Free Rooster "The Best Of '24/7 Spots"	Access Hollywood (CC)	#WWE Raw	My Wife and Kids Half & Half (CC) 20/20 (CC)	CSI: Miami "The Best Defense" A masked gunman opens fire at a bar, killing two men and wounding one. (CC)	Headline News	Saturday Night Live (CC)				
8	NEWS	Dateline NBC (CC)	The O'Reilly Factor (CC)	CNN Saturday Morning (CC)	MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced.	Strong Medicine "Odegeneration" Dr. Dagado checks up on a doctor who may be growing senile. (CC)	Friends Carol goes to labor. (CC)	Seinfeld Jerry begs Elaine for second chance.	The Real World San Diego (CC)			
9	SPTS	#40-00 MLB Baseball Teams to Be Announced.	#SportsCenter	History Detectives Shipwreck in Alaska; possible Civil War saddle. (CC)	*** Jetsons: The Movie "1999, Comedy" Mid Blanc	City Confidential A Green Belt, a woman accused of strangling his wife. (CC)	My So-Called Life Father Figures" (CC)	The Simpsons	The Simpsons			
10	SPTS	What Not to Wear "Elin" A newly-thin three-indicator.	Trading Spices	Crossing Jordan Armed man kidnaps a resident trying to notify a married wife of his murder. (CC)	*** Jetsons: The Movie "1999, Comedy" Mid Blanc	City Confidential A Green Belt, a woman accused of strangling his wife. (CC)	My So-Called Life Father Figures" (CC)	The Simpsons	The Simpsons			
11	AFN-HM	SpongeBob #Rugrats (CC)	"Motocrossed" (2001, Adventure) Alan Arista	*** Jetsons: The Movie "1999, Comedy" Mid Blanc	City Confidential A Green Belt, a woman accused of strangling his wife. (CC)	My So-Called Life Father Figures" (CC)	The Simpsons	The Simpsons				
12	AFN-IMC	#500 *** "Double Jeopardy" 6:30 *** "K-11: The Widowmaker" Nelson, Peter Sarsgaard A Soviet submarine's nuclear reactor develops a leak. PG-13 (CC)	Antiques Roadshow "Chicago" An original Reddish "Butcher Cover" album. Russian magifying glass. (CC)	History Detectives Shipwreck in Alaska; possible Civil War saddle. (CC)	*** Jetsons: The Movie "1999, Comedy" Mid Blanc	City Confidential A Green Belt, a woman accused of strangling his wife. (CC)	My So-Called Life Father Figures" (CC)	The Simpsons	The Simpsons			
14	TMZ	Now "Why the Towers Fell" Forensic experts investigate how the World Trade Center's twin towers collapsed.	Antiques Roadshow "Chicago" An original Reddish "Butcher Cover" album. Russian magifying glass. (CC)	History Detectives Shipwreck in Alaska; possible Civil War saddle. (CC)	*** Jetsons: The Movie "1999, Comedy" Mid Blanc	City Confidential A Green Belt, a woman accused of strangling his wife. (CC)	My So-Called Life Father Figures" (CC)	The Simpsons	The Simpsons			
24	PBS	Now "Why the Towers Fell" Forensic experts investigate how the World Trade Center's twin towers collapsed.	Antiques Roadshow "Chicago" An original Reddish "Butcher Cover" album. Russian magifying glass. (CC)	History Detectives Shipwreck in Alaska; possible Civil War saddle. (CC)	*** Jetsons: The Movie "1999, Comedy" Mid Blanc	City Confidential A Green Belt, a woman accused of strangling his wife. (CC)	My So-Called Life Father Figures" (CC)	The Simpsons	The Simpsons			
25	SHOW	118 *** "The Real World: Portland" Scott, Hope Davis, Denis Leary A dentist thinks his wife is having an affair. "R" (CC)	City Confidential Miami Linda Soback is murdered by a killer who lurked behind his camera. (CC)	History Detectives Shipwreck in Alaska; possible Civil War saddle. (CC)	*** Jetsons: The Movie "1999, Comedy" Mid Blanc	City Confidential A Green Belt, a woman accused of strangling his wife. (CC)	My So-Called Life Father Figures" (CC)	The Simpsons	The Simpsons			
27	A&E	Investigative Reports Mohamed Atta, insider of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. to be Announced	City Confidential Miami Linda Soback is murdered by a killer who lurked behind his camera. (CC)	History Detectives Shipwreck in Alaska; possible Civil War saddle. (CC)	*** Jetsons: The Movie "1999, Comedy" Mid Blanc	City Confidential A Green Belt, a woman accused of strangling his wife. (CC)	My So-Called Life Father Figures" (CC)	The Simpsons	The Simpsons			
28	DISC	to be Announced	City Confidential Miami Linda Soback is murdered by a killer who lurked behind his camera. (CC)	History Detectives Shipwreck in Alaska; possible Civil War saddle. (CC)	*** Jetsons: The Movie "1999, Comedy" Mid Blanc	City Confidential A Green Belt, a woman accused of strangling his wife. (CC)	My So-Called Life Father Figures" (CC)	The Simpsons	The Simpsons			
29	TFC	(16) Pirated CD	City Confidential Miami Linda Soback is murdered by a killer who lurked behind his camera. (CC)	History Detectives Shipwreck in Alaska; possible Civil War saddle. (CC)	*** Jetsons: The Movie "1999, Comedy" Mid Blanc	City Confidential A Green Belt, a woman accused of strangling his wife. (CC)	My So-Called Life Father Figures" (CC)	The Simpsons	The Simpsons			
30	CNN+	Larry King Live (CC)	CNN World News #World Sport	CNN World News #World Sport	CNN World News #World Sport	CNN World News #World Sport	CNN World News #World Sport	CNN World News #World Sport	CNN World News #World Sport	CNN World News #World Sport	CNN World News #World Sport	CNN World News #World Sport
31	GOLF	*European PGA Golf Omega European Masters #Trading Spices: Family "Philly, McCallister Street" Two houses have the same secret design.	While You Were Out "Savannah: John Roper" Experimental theatre in a living room.	King of the Jungle	World's Biggest and Baddest Bugs Killer bees, bullet ants, bird-eating spiders. (CC)	Amazing Animal Videos Horse and bull arrests, bird-eating spiders. (CC)	Chappelle's Show "Crank Yankers" (CC) NFL quarterback Manning. (CC)	The Graham Norton Effect Chris Rock, Coke. (CC)	The Graham Norton Effect Chris Rock, Coke. (CC)			
32	TLC	*European PGA Golf Omega European Masters #Trading Spices: Family "Philly, McCallister Street" Two houses have the same secret design.	While You Were Out "Savannah: John Roper" Experimental theatre in a living room.	King of the Jungle	World's Biggest and Baddest Bugs Killer bees, bullet ants, bird-eating spiders. (CC)	Amazing Animal Videos Horse and bull arrests, bird-eating spiders. (CC)	Chappelle's Show "Crank Yankers" (CC) NFL quarterback Manning. (CC)	The Graham Norton Effect Chris Rock, Coke. (CC)	The Graham Norton Effect Chris Rock, Coke. (CC)			
34	TOON	What's New Scooby-Doo? #H-Man and the Masters of the Universe	Jonny's Global Impact	King of the Jungle	World's Biggest and Baddest Bugs Killer bees, bullet ants, bird-eating spiders. (CC)	Amazing Animal Videos Horse and bull arrests, bird-eating spiders. (CC)	Chappelle's Show "Crank Yankers" (CC) NFL quarterback Manning. (CC)	The Graham Norton Effect Chris Rock, Coke. (CC)	The Graham Norton Effect Chris Rock, Coke. (CC)			
35	ANPL	Most Extreme Lovers Mating in the animal world.	King of the Jungle	World's Biggest and Baddest Bugs Killer bees, bullet ants, bird-eating spiders. (CC)	Amazing Animal Videos Horse and bull arrests, bird-eating spiders. (CC)	Chappelle's Show "Crank Yankers" (CC) NFL quarterback Manning. (CC)	The Graham Norton Effect Chris Rock, Coke. (CC)	The Graham Norton Effect Chris Rock, Coke. (CC)				
36	COM	Mad TV Kathy Griffin (CC)	Mad TV Kathy Griffin (CC)	Mad TV Kathy Griffin (CC)	Mad TV Kathy Griffin (CC)	Mad TV Kathy Griffin (CC)	Mad TV Kathy Griffin (CC)	Mad TV Kathy Griffin (CC)	Mad TV Kathy Griffin (CC)	Mad TV Kathy Griffin (CC)	Mad TV Kathy Griffin (CC)	Mad TV Kathy Griffin (CC)
40	NGC-A	Megastructures "USS Ronald Reagan" #Foxy	While You Were Out "Savannah: John Roper" Experimental theatre in a living room.	King of the Jungle	World's Biggest and Baddest Bugs Killer bees, bullet ants, bird-eating spiders. (CC)	Amazing Animal Videos Horse and bull arrests, bird-eating spiders. (CC)	Chappelle's Show "Crank Yankers" (CC) NFL quarterback Manning. (CC)	The Graham Norton Effect Chris Rock, Coke. (CC)	The Graham Norton Effect Chris Rock, Coke. (CC)			
42	SPK	6:00 *** "Missing in Action" (1984, Adventure) Chuck Norris. (CC)	While You Were Out "Savannah: John Roper" Experimental theatre in a living room.	King of the Jungle	World's Biggest and Baddest Bugs Killer bees, bullet ants, bird-eating spiders. (CC)	Amazing Animal Videos Horse and bull arrests, bird-eating spiders. (CC)	Chappelle's Show "Crank Yankers" (CC) NFL quarterback Manning. (CC)	The Graham Norton Effect Chris Rock, Coke. (CC)	The Graham Norton Effect Chris Rock, Coke. (CC)			
43	FOX	Stargate SG-1 "Prophecy" Jonas starts predicting the future. (CC)	The Invisible Man "Ralph" Daniel plays a scientist who is stalked by a sinister. (CC)	King of the Jungle	World's Biggest and Baddest Bugs Killer bees, bullet ants, bird-eating spiders. (CC)	Amazing Animal Videos Horse and bull arrests, bird-eating spiders. (CC)	Chappelle's Show "Crank Yankers" (CC) NFL quarterback Manning. (CC)	The Graham Norton Effect Chris Rock, Coke. (CC)	The Graham Norton Effect Chris Rock, Coke. (CC)			
44	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live Kenny Kirk, P. Diddy	BET.com Count- down	King of the Jungle	World's Biggest and Baddest Bugs Killer bees, bullet ants, bird-eating spiders. (CC)	Amazing Animal Videos Horse and bull arrests, bird-eating spiders. (CC)	Chappelle's Show "Crank Yankers" (CC) NFL quarterback Manning. (CC)	The Graham Norton Effect Chris Rock, Coke. (CC)	The Graham Norton Effect Chris Rock, Coke. (CC)			
46	COURT	1 Detective Suspect killer has a double murder. (CC)	1 Detective Suspect killer has a double murder. (CC)	1 Detective Suspect killer has a double murder. (CC)	1 Detective Suspect killer has a double murder. (CC)	1 Detective Suspect killer has a double murder. (CC)	1 Detective Suspect killer has a double murder. (CC)	1 Detective Suspect killer has a double murder. (CC)	1 Detective Suspect killer has a double murder. (CC)	1 Detective Suspect killer has a double murder. (CC)	1 Detective Suspect killer has a double murder. (CC)	1 Detective Suspect killer has a double murder. (CC)
48	STR-WD	Roswell (CC)	Dark Angel (CC)	Dark Angel (CC)	Dark Angel (CC)	Dark Angel (CC)	Dark Angel (CC)	Dark Angel (CC)	Dark Angel (CC)	Dark Angel (CC)	Dark Angel (CC)	Dark Angel (CC)
50	LIFE	6:00 *** "The Wedding Dress" 2001) Time Daily Five couples experience the wonder of a magical gown.	"Outcasts of the Heart" (2000, Drama) Bustards. A businessman is accused of being an unfit mother. (CC)	World's Biggest and Baddest Bugs Killer bees, bullet ants, bird-eating spiders. (CC)	Amazing Animal Videos Horse and bull arrests, bird-eating spiders. (CC)	Chappelle's Show "Crank Yankers" (CC) NFL quarterback Manning. (CC)	The Graham Norton Effect Chris Rock, Coke. (CC)	The Graham Norton Effect Chris Rock, Coke. (CC)				
51	ABCAM	*** "Home Alone 2: Lost in New York" 1992) Comedies Macaulay Culkin, Joe Pesci. Daniel Stern. Kevin ends up in New York when he boards the wrong plane.	"Outcasts of the Heart" (2000, Drama) Bustards. A businessman is accused of being an unfit mother. (CC)	World's Biggest and Baddest Bugs Killer bees, bullet ants, bird-eating spiders. (CC)	Amazing Animal Videos Horse and bull arrests, bird-eating spiders. (CC)	Chappelle's Show "Crank Yankers" (CC) NFL quarterback Manning. (CC)	The Graham Norton Effect Chris Rock, Coke. (CC)	The Graham Norton Effect Chris Rock, Coke. (CC)				
53	HIST	6:40 Band of Brothers (CC)	Band of Brothers (CC)	Band of Brothers (CC)	Band of Brothers (CC)	Band of Brothers (CC)	Band of Brothers (CC)	Band of Brothers (CC)	Band of Brothers (CC)	Band of Brothers (CC)	Band of Brothers (CC)	Band of Brothers (CC)
57	STR-W	6:15 *** "About a Boy" (2002) Hugh Grant. A lonely boy finds a friend in a creature he's raised.	6:15 *** "The Jackal" (1997) Suspense Bruce Willis, Richard Gere, Sidney Poitier. An imprisoned assassin escapes to commit a murder.	World's Biggest and Baddest Bugs Killer bees, bullet ants, bird-eating spiders. (CC)	Amazing Animal Videos Horse and bull arrests, bird-eating spiders. (CC)	Chappelle's Show "Crank Yankers" (CC) NFL quarterback Manning. (CC)	The Graham Norton Effect Chris Rock, Coke. (CC)	The Graham Norton Effect Chris Rock, Coke. (CC)				
58	ADV 1	The Photographers and the President "National Geographic" photographers.	6:15 *** "The Jackal" (1997) Suspense Bruce Willis, Richard Gere, Sidney Poitier. An imprisoned assassin escapes to commit a murder.	World's Biggest and Baddest Bugs Killer bees, bullet ants, bird-eating spiders. (CC)	Amazing Animal Videos Horse and bull arrests, bird-eating spiders. (CC)	Chappelle's Show "Crank Yankers" (CC) NFL quarterback Manning. (CC)	The Graham Norton Effect Chris Rock, Coke. (CC)	The Graham Norton Effect Chris Rock, Coke. (CC)				
59	MTV	True Life "A Big Wave Surfer" 7:00 News (CC)	True Life "A Big Wave Surfer" 7:00 News (CC)	True Life "A Big Wave Surfer" 7:00 News (CC)	True Life "A Big Wave Surfer" 7:00 News (CC)	True Life "A Big Wave Surfer" 7:00 News (CC)	True Life "A Big Wave Surfer" 7:00 News (CC)	True Life "A Big Wave Surfer" 7:00 News (CC)	True Life "A Big Wave Surfer" 7:00 News (CC)	True Life "A Big Wave Surfer" 7:00 News (CC)	True Life "A Big Wave Surfer" 7:00 News (CC)	True Life "A Big Wave Surfer" 7:00 News (CC)
60	NICK	SpongeBob SquarPants (CC)	Invader Zim	Invader Zim	Invader Zim	Invader Zim	Invader Zim	Invader Zim	Invader Zim	Invader Zim	Invader Zim	Invader Zim

JAPAN TV

Afternoon
9:00 Traditional Arts of Japan: Dance (30)
9:25 Athens Paralympics Highlights (1)
9:30 Kogi Sumo: The 14th Day (30)
9:35 35TH Japan Mami-San (housewives)
10:00 Kogi Sumo: The 14th Day (30)
10:04 Traction Japan Cup (12)
10:30 Between the Lions (2)
Evening
7:00 News (1)
7:00 Japan Pro Ball: Yomiuri Giants vs. Han-
rin Tigers (4)
8:00 Athens Paralympics Highlights (30)
9:00 Ultimate Fighting K-1 World GP (3)
11:00 Soccer: AFC U-20 Championship (1)
12:45 Grand Prix: Shanghai GP Preliminary
2-15 F Grand Prix: Shanghai GP Preliminary
2-15 F
2:15 German National: Millennium Man
(29:30)
2:40 U.S. Movie (1986): Knock Off (14:00)
3:00 24: Twenty Four Series 1 Special (8)

3:05 NFL Digest: Chiefs vs. Panthers (4)
3:30 Classical Music: Dvorak (13)
4:00 Grand Sumo Digest (13)

JAPAN TV-BS7

Morning
6:00 Top News from Around the World
6:30 Top News from Around the World
7:00 Top News from Around the World
7:30 Top News from Around the World
8:00 MLB: New York Yankees vs. Boston Red
Sox (30)
11:00 CNN News
12:00 MLB: Seattle Mariners vs. Texas Rangers
1:30 Football Match
3:30 World's 12th Round, Japanese GP High-
lights
6:00 NFL Documentary: Mass Game in North
Korea
9:00 NFL Weekly
10:00 Grand Sumo Digest (13)
11:55 CNN News

12:45 Czech/Leipzig Japan Cup 2004
2:45 MLB Inside Reports
3:05 What's On Asia Special
3:30 What's On Japan
4:35 PGA Golf: 84 Lumber Classic - 3rd
Round

JAPAN TV-BS11

Morning
6:00 Top News from Around the World
6:30 Top News from Around the World
7:00 Top News from Around the World
7:30 Top News from Around the World
8:00 MLB: New York Yankees vs. Boston Red
Sox (30)
11:00 CNN News
12:00 MLB: Seattle Mariners vs. Texas Rangers
1:30 Football Match
3:30 World's 12th Round, Japanese GP High-
lights
6:00 NFL Documentary: Mass Game in North
Korea
9:00 NFL Weekly
10:00 Grand Sumo Digest (13)
11:55 CNN News

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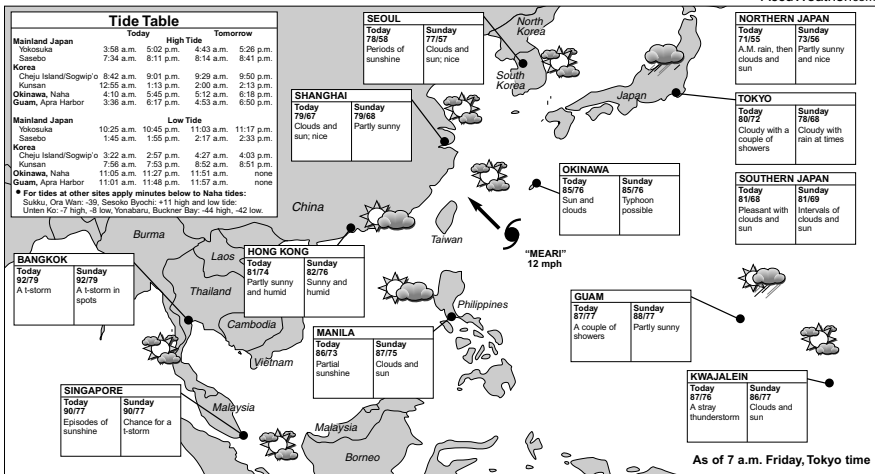
Morning

6:00 Czech-British Movie (2001): Dark Blue
8:00 TV Series: Third Watch
9:00 TV Series: CSI: Crime Scene Investigation
10:30 Stephen King's Kingdom Hospital #1
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The Pacific Forecast

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Extended Forecasts

TOKYO

Monday: Showers, high 74, low 65.
 Tuesday: Rain, high 76, low 64.

KADENA

Monday: Rain, high 85, low 77.
 Tuesday: Thunderstorms, high 86, low 77.

SEoul

Monday: Partly sunny, high 78, low 60.
 Tuesday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 80, low 60.

MANILA

Monday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 88, low 75.
 Tuesday: Periods of clouds and sunshine, high 87, low 75.

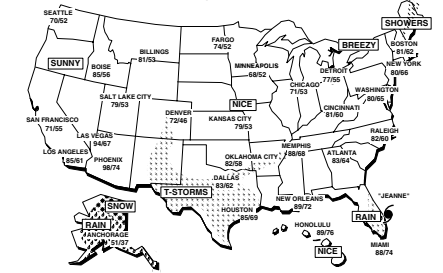
HAGATNA

Monday: Showers, high 88, low 77.
 Tuesday: Showers, high 88, low 78.

Thursday's USA Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Albuquerque	75/52	Little Rock	82/61	Seattle	70/52
Amarillo	73/50	Louisville	89/66	San Francisco	71/55
Anchorage	50/34	Milwaukee	81/63	Las Vegas	94/67
Ashville	86/56	Nashville	87/65	Phoenix	94/67
Baltimore	85/62	New York	83/64	Pittsburgh	85/69
Birmingham	90/66	Omaha	75/52	Portland, OR	71/52
Bismarck	61/48	Orlando	89/70	Portland, ME	74/46
Boise	80/53	Philadelphia	87/63	Salt Lake City	71/50
Boston	75/57	Phoenix	94/67	St. Louis	87/66
Brownsville	92/72	Portland, ME	74/46	San Antonio	89/68
Buffalo	79/58	San Francisco	71/55	San Diego	85/64
Burlington	77/51	St. Louis	87/66	San Juan	93/76
Charleston, SC	88/67	San Antonio	89/68	Tampa	91/72
Charlotte	87/60	San Diego	85/64	Tulsa	85/64
Cleveland	84/60	San Juan	93/76	Washington	85/67
Columbus, OH	87/61	Tampa	91/72	Wichita	79/55
Duluth	69/49	Tulsa	85/64		
El Paso	86/59	Washington	85/67		
Hartford	82/54	Wichita	79/55		
Indianapolis	86/63				
Jacksonville	87/66				
Kansas City	80/56				

Saturday, September 25



U.S. Extended Forecast

The tropics will continue to be the topic this weekend as leftover moisture from Ivan will continue to spark showers and thunderstorms in southern Texas and Jeanne continues to move closer to the Southeast coast, possibly making landfall late in the weekend somewhere between Florida and the Carolinas. This would bring heavy rain and gusty winds to areas near the coast and just inland. Elsewhere, high pressure will promote dry weather from the Great Lakes and northern Plains into the Ohio and middle Mississippi valleys. Warm air will continue in the West as a ridge of high pressure remains anchored overhead.

Saturday's Pacific Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Bangkok	92/79	Kadena AB	85/76	Sapporo	71/55
Beijing	77/57	Kansai AB	77/61	Seoul	78/58
Camp Casey	79/56	Kwajalein	87/76	Shanghai	79/67
Christchurch	54/39	Manila	86/73	Singapore	90/77
Diego Garcia	82/75	Masawa AB	72/57	Sydney	73/52
Hagatna	86/73	Osan	78/59	Tagu	80/60
Hanoi	81/74	Perth	87/70	Taipei	87/70
Hong Kong	89/76	Pusan	77/63	Tokyo	80/72

Saturday's World Temperatures

CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW	CITY	HIGH/LOW
Acapulco	90/73	Budapest	72/57	Kabul	86/47
Athens	85/61	Buenos Aires	75/57	Kiev	59/42
Auckland	57/46	Cairo	96/71	Kuwait	108/76
Baghdad	111/78	Cancun	83/71	London	55/48
Barbados	90/73	Cape Town	58/41	Madrid	76/51
Barcelona	62/50	Geneva	51/40	Mexico City	75/54
Berlin	58/40	Istanbul	74/60	Montreal	75/53
Bermuda	80/70	Jerusalem	90/70	Mogadishu	88/73
Brussels	61/48	Johannesburg	75/46	Moscow	54/39
				Warsaw	55/42



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Stripes backs free speech

As an American citizen who reads Stars and Stripes each day, I'd like to clarify what the writer of the Sept. 22 letter "Content in Stripes leaves left" may not understand.

First, if the writer doesn't like what he believes to be too much "liberal" news in this newspaper, perhaps he should write his elected representative. After all, it is Congress that mandates Stars and Stripes' position as a "First Amendment" news outlet.

It is because of this freedom of speech that the writer and others can voice their opinions rather than being stifled.

DOD Directive 5122.1 directs Stars and Stripes to be accurate, factual, impartial and objective. Also, the National Defense Authorization Act of 1940 says that the paper "must enjoy the full protection of the First Amendment, and military personnel on the frontiers of freedom must enjoy their First Amendment rights."

I respect and admire the writer and the others serving in Iraq. I also admire him for voicing his First Amendment right in this freedom-of-speech-protected newspaper. But before he becomes the spokesperson for all serving in Iraq, perhaps he should consider how some who serve with him may actually find reading information that may not fit into his less-than-objective perspective.

And one other point: Objectivity does not imply liberalism.

Michael Tolzmann
Heidelberg, Germany

No evidence of bias

Stars and Stripes should not have published the Sept. 22 letter "Content in Stripes leaves left," a baseless rant. The writer offers no facts or supporting evidence; he only repeats the mantra of political conservatives who have bullied media outlets into more favorable coverage of their pet causes.

Stripes has been a journalistic institution for too long to be intimidated by either side of the political aisle.

Maybe Stripes is too liberal, maybe it is too conservative. But arguments either way should be supported by facts, not hot air. In this case, Stripes has devoted precious space to one writer's superficial claim —

Tell us what you think

Stars and Stripes welcomes your comments on editorials and columns that are published in the newspaper, and values letters on topics of importance in the lives of our readers. All letters must be signed, and must include the writer's address or base and telephone number. Please limit all letters to 300 words. We reserve the right to edit letters for length, taste and clarity.

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when they are to take those measures, in order to protect their troops. I'm sure that during basic training the writer was taught to seek cover while under attack. Occupying a bunker or similar protective shelter during a mortar attack is no different.

Second, yes, the Army does have ways of detecting the source of incoming mortar fire and various means of responding to that fire. What the author fails to take into account is that the anti-Iraq forces who have chosen to continue these cowardly attacks are not bound by the same rules of engagement that our forces are. Surely there was a thought process that took place during and after the attack, and although you and I may not be aware of it, a choice was made regarding how best to respond. Of course our forces could respond to mortar fire by leveling the source of the fire within minutes, but what purpose would that serve if the launch point was the courtyard of a school or a local mosque and, more important, what kind of message would it send?

I listen some of the writer's comments to calling U.S. forces cowards. Rest assured there is a big difference between cowardice and prudence. Our brothers-at-arms exhibit bravery each time they exit that wire to conduct operations in that hostile land. Show them some respect.

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Kelvin Holt
Hawaii, Germany

Prudence is not fear

In the Sept. 18 letter "Fear bravery, not fear," the writer states that during a visit to Camp Anacoda on Sept. 11, 2004, normal camp operations were interrupted for nearly three hours by a mortar attack. The writer says the soldiers on Camp Anacoda were "living in fear," which is a bad way to live your life.

According to the writer, although [U.S. forces] "have planes, helicopters and an array of devices to detect mortar attacks" our response to the attack was to exhibit "fear and hiding."

First, it is true that to live in fear would be a bad way to live one's life. However to ignore an incoming mortar barrage and continue normal operations would be just plain foolish. There is a big difference between a soldier exhibiting "fear and hiding" and a soldier using common sense. Commanders issue guidance stating which force protection measures soldiers should take and

Warfar part of communion

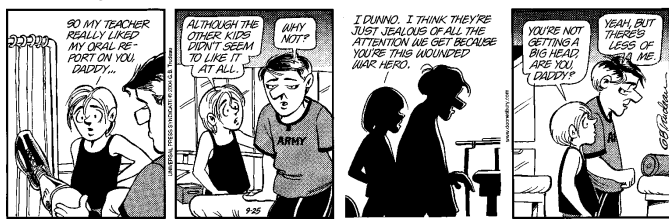
The writer of the Sept. 9 letter "Church doesn't deserve a blast" may have forgotten God's words at the Last Supper. A little re-fresher course — God said to eat and drink, do this in remembrance of me. The writer — unwashed cracker or bread — represents the breaking of God's body and the wine represents the blood shed on the cross for our sins. We are to partake of both.

As far as busy schedules, there is no excuse — we should always have time for God or we should make time. Does God make excuses to us? No, he always has time for us. I think teaching our children when still young and old enough to understand is the best thing. If you say Communion is a waste of time then God is a waste of time.

Sp. Lloyd Marino

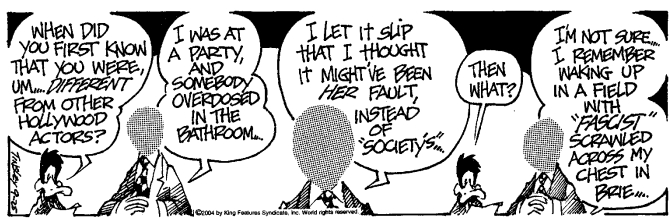
Camp Victory, Iraq

BY GARRY TRUDEAU



Mallard Fillmore

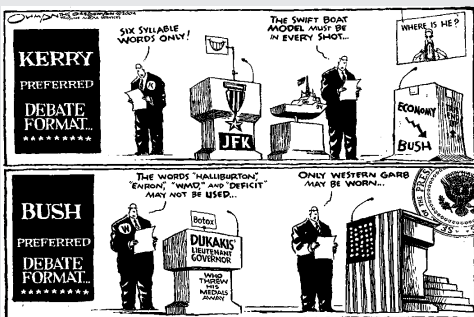
BY BRUCE TINSLEY



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Looking at the news

A weekly sampling of
U.S. editorial cartoons



Fake class scheme

CA SANTA ANA — Nearly a dozen former or current community college employees allegedly concocted off-campus classes in order to inflate enrollment and collect more than \$2 million in state funding, according to a newspaper report.

The alleged schemes have resulted in at least 10 community college employees in Southern California who have been placed on trial or whose actions remain under investigation, The Orange County Register reported.

The newspaper's review found officials from the community colleges often collaborated with non-profit organizations, businesses and even public agencies to provide unregulated classes — some of which were never held.

In some cases, the employees kept the money for themselves.

Gay dad custody case

ID BOISE — The Idaho Supreme Court has ruled that sexual orientation should not be the basis for custody decisions, but it denied a gay father's bid for custody.

Gay-rights advocates hailed the decision as a guide for future custody cases, but expressed disappointment that it did not help Theron McGriff gain custody of his two daughters.

The court said in a prepared statement that sexual orientation should be considered for custody purposes only if the orientation is shown to cause harm to the child.

"Sexual orientation, in and of itself, cannot be the basis for awarding or removing custody," the court said.

But in its 4-1 ruling, the Supreme Court said there was still sufficient evidence to support a county magistrate's 2002 conclusion that McGriff's ex-wife, Shawn Weingartner, was best suited for sole custody of the children.

Pack animal access

DC WASHINGTON — Seeking to head off environmental groups that want to limit access to federal lands, House lawmakers won approval of legislation to assure that people can continue to use pack and saddle animals in their visits to parks and wilderness areas.

With passage of the bill, said Rep. Steve Pearce, R-N.M., of the House Resources Committee, the House is "preserving one of the most fundamental and truly historic ways to experience our public lands."

The legislation, passed by voice, assures that pack and saddle animals will have access to lands where a historic tradition speaks to such use. Relevant secretaries are to issue rules to define the meaning of that historic tradition.

Church fair accident

MA BOSTON — A pair of improper bolts caused an amusement park ride to break apart at a church fair, killing one person and injuring two others, the state's commissioner of public safety said.

The accident happened Sunday on the Sizzler ride at St. Mary's



Church and parochial school in Shrewsbury, 40 miles west of Boston.

Andrew R. Fohlin, 38, died after he was thrown from the ride and hit his head on the pavement. Two others were injured. All three were residents of a nearby state-run home for the mentally retarded.

Commissioner Thomas Gatzunis said the car in which Fohlin was seated was attached with two bolts — one was too small and the other had been altered, and neither met the manufacturer's specifications. The small bolt broke, causing the footrest and lap restraint to come loose, Gatzunis said.

Cigarettes stop thief

PA BETHLEHEM — A 62-year-old gas station cashier chased off a would-be thief by hurling cartons of cigarettes at him, police said.

The assailant entered the Texaco gas station on Steffen Boulevard, Tuesday wearing a T-shirt over his head and wielding a silver pen, police said.

The man told cashier Lorraine Roth to "open the cash register ... I don't want to have to kill you," according to police.

Roth then threw the cartons of cigarettes at the man until he ran off. Police later determined that the same man had robbed another convenience store in Allentown.



Looking for a bite

A trawler passes in the distance as vacationer Mark Spears, of Ohio, fishes for "anything that will bite" on the beach on Hilton Head Island, S.C.

Kids cause fire

WY RIVERTON — Firefighters were close to containing a fire apparently sparked by children that blew out of control and destroyed dozens of vehicles, several outbuildings and tons of hay at a livestock barn.

Nine people, including seven firefighters, suffered minor injuries, officials said. Residents of about 80 homes were allowed to return home after being evacuated.

"I'm guessing about a million-dollar fire loss," Riverton Fire Marshal Matt Lee said. "It appears to be children being careless with fireworks," Lee said.

It was not immediately clear if any charges would be filed.

Porch collapse

IL CHICAGO — A three-story porch collapsed on Chicago's southwest side as three people were trying to steal a stove that was on it, authorities said.

Two men wounded in the collapse and a woman were in police custody but no charges had been filed, police said. Both of the men were hospitalized, one in critical and the other in serious condition.

Authorities were investigating the cause of the collapse.

Orangutan's new digs

HI HONOLULU — Rusti the orangutan was on his best behavior, as Honolulu Zoo officials announced he may finally be getting a new home more like his natural habitat.

A Big Island foundation presented a large gift to the popular primatologist during a news conference in front of the outdated gorilla cage he's been living in for the past seven years.

The \$100,000 donation from The Chelsey Foundation will be added to \$200,000 already contributed by the Orangutan Foundation International and the city to build a new habitat at the zoo for Rusti.

Rusti arrived at the Honolulu Zoo in 1997 for what was to be a temporary stay after the Orangutan foundation removed him from a private New Jersey zoo. Rusti had been living in unsanitary conditions and braving the New Jersey winter without heating.

Mad Tacker caught?

GA DALTON — Authorities say they've nailed The Mad Tacker.

Robert Holcomb had a sharp grudge against police, and now he's accused of criminal damage for allegedly throwing nails on the roads in front of the police station and jail for more than six months.

Holcomb, dubbed The Mad Tacker by police, is blamed for flattening tires of at least seven sheriff's patrol cars and seven personal vehicles of Whitfield County 911 Center employees.

"Sooner or later, he got just about everybody," said sheriff's Maj. John Gibson.

Holcomb, 35, was arrested after an officer spotted him dumping nails on a street near the county jail. He was charged with first-degree criminal damage to property, damaging government property, first-degree criminal trespass, littering and interference with government property.



Really into TV Matt Miller, assistant manager at Westcoast Fitness in East Bremerton, Wa., cleans television sets at the gym, while on TV a poker player studies his hand.



Close quarters

Greg Beaver puts the finishing fit on small tubes connecting to a large one inside an industrial boiler at Rentech Boiler Systems in Abilene, Texas.



Beautiful beginning On the last evening of summer, residents of Oswego, N.Y., were given a colorful farewell to summer and the entrance of fall colors.



Native beauty Wearing an elaborate headdress of pheasant and macaw feathers, Jorge Medina of San Jose, Calif., dances on the National Mall at the start of the Native Nations Procession to help dedicate the new National Museum of the American Indian in Washington, D.C.



Wagon bling

Dick Beit, right, takes his great-grandson, Tyler, for a ride in his custom-made, motorized, monster Radio Flyer wagon in New London, Conn.



Leading the pack? A groundhog stands in the path of a girls cross country race in Union Vale, N.Y. The critter eventually moved as the runners approached closer.

Fatal fishing fight

NY NEW YORK — A man died after becoming involved in a scuffle with another man while he was fishing at a pier in Brooklyn, police said.

The incident began when a man approached a unidentified 31-year-old man while he fished off of Canarsie Pier at Rockaway Parkway. The two got into a dispute and both of them fell into the water.

A third man, an unidentified 23-year-old, jumped into the water after them, along with off-duty 69th Precinct Capt. Daniel Carione, 37.

Carione recovered the second man, and held him until emergency workers took him to Brookdale Hospital, where he was listed in stable condition. Carione was taken to Jamaica Hospital and also was in stable condition.

The first man, also unidentified, was recovered by harbor police and taken to Brookdale Hospital, where he was pronounced dead.

The third man left the water by himself and refused medical attention.

Hospital lays off 45

SC ANDERSON — AnMed Health officials laid off 45 employees and reduced 14 others to part-time status in cost-saving measures at the hospital. The board of directors unanimously passed a budget that covers the opening of a new cancer center and women and children's hospital.

Hospital officials said about half the laid-off workers could find work at the new facilities next spring.

Recording train info

NE OMAHA — Union Pacific plans to attach digital cameras and microphones on its locomotives to record each trip and any accident that might happen along the way.

The Omaha-based company, which according to its Web site has more than 7,000 locomotives and is the largest railroad in North America, is in the process of finding a company to install the cameras and is working out details such as cost and how precisely the system would work.

A New York Times story published in July said the company failed to properly report fatal accidents along its tracks. Immediately after the article was printed, Union Pacific said it would develop a camera system, said company spokesman John Bromley.

The cameras would be mounted outside the engineer's cab and would be used with the event recorders, already on the company's locomotives, that track the actions of the engineer much like a black box on an airplane.

Debris cleanup at issue

AZ PHOENIX — Some Navajos say they want debris left from a 1956 collision of two airliners over the Grand Canyon removed, calling it long-neglected trash.

But federal officials aren't sure that the debris is from the collision of a TWA Super Constellation and United Airlines DC-7 that killed 128 people aboard the two planes.

"We're not in the position to look into this at this point," said Ted Lopatkiewicz, a spokesman for the National Transportation Safety Board. "With the aviation wreckage, I don't know if the airlines have any responsibility to clean it up."

Nearly 50 years after the accident, residents say a large airline tire remains embedded near charred limestone rock about 5,000 feet above the canyon's rivers on a plateau on Navajo land.

1,000 stings kill man

IN PORT WAYNE — A retired zoo director died after he was stung about 1,000 times by European yellow jackets when he fell onto their nest from a ladder while cleaning windows at his home.

Earl Wells, 75, had been in a coma at Lutheran Hospital since the Sept. 12 attack near Huntertown, about 10 miles north of Port Wayne.

Wells was the director of the Fort Wayne Children's Zoo from its opening in 1965 until his retirement in 1994 and had served as a consultant in the design of other zoos around the country.

European yellow jackets swarmed Wells when the stepladder he was standing on to wash windows collapsed onto their underground nest, the zoo said in a statement.

School district wins big

CA LOS ANGELES — A California school district won \$500,000 from The Broad Foundation, earning half of the nation's top prize in public education.

The Garden Grove Unified School District in Orange County was recognized by the foundation for improving student test scores while closing achievement gaps between white and minority students, as well as affluent and low-income students.

More than 100 urban districts nationwide were eligible for the \$1 million Broad Prize, which is awarded annually.

"We're very thrilled and gratified for being chosen," Garden Grove spokesman Alan Trudell said after an award ceremony in Los Angeles.

Barge traffic resumes

TN CHATTANOOGA — The Tennessee Valley Authority allowed barge traffic to resume on the Tennessee River after floodwater from Hurricane Ivan moved through the lake system. TVA stopped commercial traffic on the 652-mile river so it could lower reservoir levels for expected heavy rains from storms spawned by Ivan.

No charges in collision

WY CHEYENNE — No charges will be filed or citations issued in last month's chain collision on Interstate 80 that left at least four people dead and three others whose remains were never found presumed dead, authorities said. The investigation found that 36 vehicles with 66 people were involved in seven crashes along a foggy stretch of the highway near Buford between Cheyenne and Laramie.

Stories and photos from wire services



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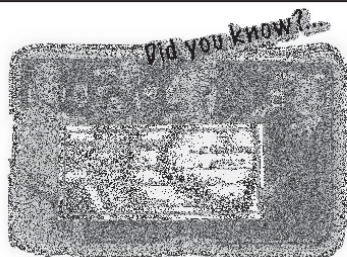
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Horoscope

If you've got something to rant about, you'd better get it out now or forever hold your peace. Tomorrow, aggressive Mars enters diplomatic Libra, where it will traverse until Nov. 11. This transit has the effect of putting an angry person in a pink room — who can stay angry in a pink room? A calming, pacifying energy takes hold.

TODAY'S BIRTHDAY

(September 25). An exciting year lies ahead for you, one full of optimism, opportunity and well-deserved recognition. In typical Libra fashion, you take it all in stride, never letting your good fortune go to your head or forgetting the little people who know you when. Your charisma draws lovers and friends to your side like moths to a flame. Love signs are Cancer and Leo.

ARIES (March 21-April 19). When the captain says, "Who will go?" you don't hesitate to put up your hand and say, "I will!" You're eager to taste life in all its fullness, which means charging forward when others around you are running away.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20). You'll be sizing up the competition, and it actually inspires you when you find out that you're up against some tough cookies. Don't feel you've got to sprint ahead to win. Your usual cool, steady stride will get you there in style.

GEMINI (May 21-June 21). Possibly nobody is hearing what you've got to say. But as long as people are doing what you want them to do, what does it matter? You'll rely more on your intuitive knowledge than semantics. Choose your company well tonight.

CANCER (June 22-July 22). Sometimes, you just have to put the card before the horse — like when there's a sale on cards, for instance. Go ahead, and act on faith. You'll find your "horse" in no time and then be able to get everything in the proper order again.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22). There's no holding you back now, when everything you touch turns to gold. You wow them at work with a bril-

liant proposal and still have the stamina to go out partying at night. Needless to say, you turn heads wherever you go.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22). Someone in your life isn't pulling his or her own weight. Now's a good time to take stock of your friends and business associates. If someone else's problems are dragging you down, it's time to think about cutting bait.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23). Some people are there to take care of you, and some people are there to take what they can get. Your job is to tell the difference and do what's right for you. Activities you do on a whim lead to fortuitous meetings.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 21). Something from your past resurfaces. It could be a problem you thought you'd seen the last of, an old love you hoped to be reunited with, or something as mundane as a lost earring that turns up between the sofa cushions.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21). Hard work over the past couple of weeks — not to mention schmoozing with all the right people — could pay off in a big way. Go ahead and indulge yourself with a little reward. Loved ones spoil you rotten tonight.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19). Even the most obsessive of workaholics needs to have a little fun every now and then. If single, drag yourself away from your desk, and hook up with your friends. You can learn a lot from their carefree style.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18). Membership has its privileges, and you'll enjoy a lot of those. You'll be happy you did forth the effort required to be part of a group. Be frank with people you don't know well. White lies will come back to haunt you.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20). Breathe a sigh of relief because your load gets a little lighter and your mood gets a lot brighter. Enjoy the fresh sense of creativity and mental stimulation that the stars bring you. Take time out with friends and loved ones.

Creators Syndicate

Joyce Jillson



Calvin and Hobbes



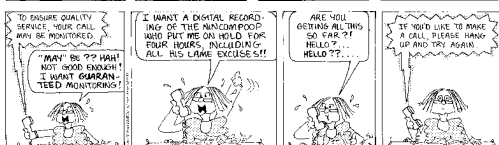
Jump Start



Zits



Cathy



Hi and Lois



Beetle Bailey



Red and Rover



Better or Worse



Peanuts



Forrest



B.C.



Baby Bites



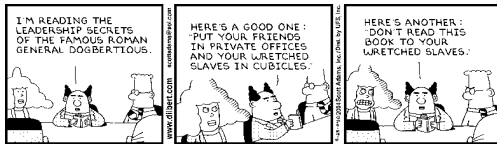
Spider Man



Blondie



Dilbert



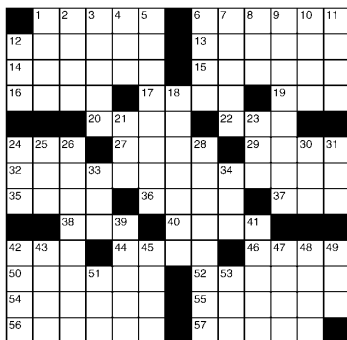
Hagar



Garfield



Eugene Sheffer Crossword



Across

- 1 In
- 6 Range portion
- 12 "20 Questions" category
- 13 One known for cutting remarks?
- 14 J.Lo biopic
- 15 "Moonlight," e.g.
- 16 Booty
- 17 Burn a bit
- 19 Part of CRT
- 20 1997 Andrea Bocelli album
- 22 Affirmative action?
- 24 Actor McBride
- 27 Understands, in Aberdeen
- 29 Humdinger
- 32 1970s sitcom
- 35 Ratio phrase
- 36 Paddock papa
- 37 Snake eyes
- 38 Early bird?
- 40 Vortex
- 42 Yon lassie
- 44 Mark replacement
- 46 "Zounds!"
- 50 Pizza topping
- 52 Subtlety
- 54 Kay Thompson heroine
- 55 Mideast nation
- 56 Mended, in a way
- 57 Tills

Down

- 1 From the top
- 2 Actress Kedrova
- 3 The end
- 4 Tandoori bread
- 5 Berg castoffs
- 6 Arizona city
- 7 Decorate
- 8 Clerical error?
- 9 Carmichael classic
- 10 Tittle
- 11 Unravel
- 12 Ninny
- 13 More convenient
- 21 Theater letters
- 23 Ancient
- 24 Forensics drama
- 25 Possesses
- 26 Gale Norton's department
- 28 Mocking
- 30 Despondent
- 31 Important numero
- 33 Visibility hindrance
- 34 "Waking — Devine"
- 39 Sleek members
- 41 Long
- 42 Did some weeding
- 43 Scat specialist
- 45 Secondhand
- 47 Summertime pest
- 48 Dogfight fighters
- 49 N.J. neighbor
- 51 Sportscastrer
- 53 Dos Passos trilogy

Answer to Previous Puzzle



9-25

CRYPTOQUIP

M DMRJ N IJ DMJFJ Z
LYQMHHJD'L DMFMUK
YQZHNJHL BVQDP IJ BZDDJP

Z UQNBH ZBRJH LQMNJ
Yesterday's Cryptoquip: IF YOU PLAY A SCALE ON A FRESHLY POLISHED PIANO, YOU MIGHT GO FROM C TO SHINING C.

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: H equals R

Husband acting like third child

Dear Abby: "Brad" and I have been together for 12 years. We have two beautiful children under the age of 10, but Brad refuses to get involved with them.

He will play with the younger one maybe 20 minutes a week. The older one gets even less attention. Brad refuses to take them anywhere to play — unless there is something in it for him.

When they are with their dad, they are stuck in front of a television set or left to play by themselves.

It's up to me to entertain the children, and that leaves me with little time alone.

I don't understand it. Brad had a happy childhood filled with lots of love, attention, family activities, etc. We both work full time and have a nice home. I have talked to him about this problem, but like everything else, if it's not important to him, it's not important.

—Needs Insight in New York
Dear Needs: You have described

a man who has turned selfishness into a habit. It appears your life partner received so much love and attention as a child that he never learned it was necessary to give to others. In a sense, he has never grown up. Your children have my sympathy, because they deserve better.

Dear Abby



Brad is not likely to change, so it's time to look elsewhere for a father figure for your children. Is there an uncle, cousin or grandfather who could spend time with them, take them to the movies, sporting events or show an interest? You, too, have my sympathy because it appears you have not two, but three "children" on your hands.

Dear Abby: I went to wake up my 14-year-old daughter today and discovered her sleeping in the nude. Apparently she has been doing it for some time. Normally she is good about getting up, and I haven't needed to

enter her room to wake her. When I asked her why she does it, she said it's more comfortable and she sleeps better.

When I told her I was not comfortable with it, she asked me why, and frankly I could not come up with a good reason other than it seemed "wrong." She questioned how it could be wrong if no one knows — unless they walk into her room without knocking (as I did). She keeps a long robe next to the bed so she can put it on in case of emergency.

I am still not comfortable with it, but we agreed to abide by your advice.

Dear Worried Mom in San Leandro: There is nothing inherently wrong with sleeping in the nude. Many people do so because they sleep more comfortably that way. Look at the bright side — it makes for smaller loads of laundry.

Letters for this column — with your name and phone number — should be addressed to Dear Abby, P.O. Box 69410, Los Angeles CA 90069. Readers can write to Abby on the Internet at <http://www.ueexpress.com/dearabby>. Universal Press Syndicate

JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

DEGIM

KAQUE

WARBOR

PROTTE

THE

Answer: THE

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THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME

by Henri Arnold and Mike Argison



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

(Answers Monday)

Yesterday's Jumbles: JOINT OBESE CHORUS BALSAM

Answer: Where the conductor placed the officers in the military orchestra — THE "BRASS" SECTION

Generosity must have some limits

Dear Annie: My spouse and I feel very fortunate to be financially well off, and we often make contributions to organizations whose goals we support.

In the last couple of years, we have made some friends in the community who are down on their luck, and we have tried to help them.

(We bought one disabled gentleman a space heater and a TV.) But we now find that some of these people have come to rely on us and call us first when they feel the pinch, even when they have family members who might help instead. This is starting to make us uncomfortable. These folks are dear to us, and we don't want to suffer, but even though our resources are generous, they are not endless.

Any suggestions on how to let our friends know gently that the gravy train isn't going to stop at their beck and call every time?

Overstretched in Washington State

Dear Overstretched: You've

Annie's Mailbox



been so generous and so accommodating that these friends assume you are eager to lend a hand. It's OK to direct them to local social services or say, "We wish we could help, but it's simply not possible this time." Better to do this now than wait until you are resentful and angry.

Dear Annie: I am writing in response to "SOS in California," whose husband, "Eddie," refuses to quit smoking pot. She gave up her marijuana habit six weeks ago, and though I applaud her for it, why is she being so hard on her husband? She ought to know how he feels. Her quitting doesn't mean she can force him to do the same.

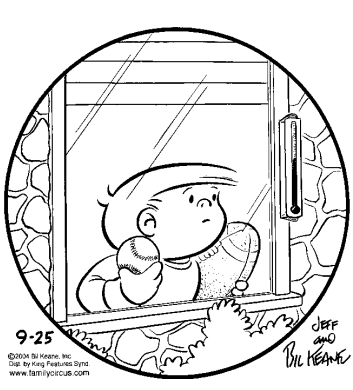
She should not give Eddie an ultimatum. It will only back him into a corner and make him defensive. She should continue working on herself, attend Nar-Anon meetings, as you suggested, and let her be an

example to him. If he is a great father and great husband, she should be thankful and stop acting so holier-than-thou.

—Perturbed in Pensacola, Fla.

Dear Perturbed: Many readers thought this woman should tolerate her husband's pot smoking until he was ready to quit on his own, and remarked that there is nothing worse than a reformed addict. That may be true, but the problem is more complicated because they have young children and she does not want their father to set this kind of example. She is afraid to wait until he is "ready" — since he gives no indication of ever getting there. We agree she cannot force him to quit, and she should give him every chance to do so on his own. But children imitate the behavior they see at home, and Eddie should understand the consequences of his choices.

Annie's Mailbox is written by Kathy Mitchell and Marcy Sugar, longtime editors of the Ann Landers column. Please e-mail your questions to annie@mailbox.comcast.net, or write to Annie's Mailbox, c/o Creators Syndicate, 5777 W. Century Blvd., Suite 700, Los Angeles, CA 90045. Creators Syndicate



GRAFFITI

PEOPLE WHO DIET NATURALLY ARE BORN LOSERS

10/24 1/25

Dennis the Menace



© Gary Larson

The Far Side



"Cummins! Schmeck! You've got plenty of research to work on ... and for the last time, stop playing with those plastic models!"

Non Sequitur



SIR FRAGMENTISM

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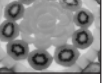
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RACING STRIPES

A WEEKLY LOOK AT MOTORSPORTS

There's no "I" in Nextel Cup

Teammates maintain they work together though only one can be champ

By MIKE HARRIS

The Associated Press

In an age of multicar teams dominating NASCAR's Nextel Cup series, it isn't surprising that half the field for the new 10-man, 10-race championship playoff features two sets of teammates.

Kurt Busch, Matt Kenseth and Mark Martin drive for Roush Racing, while Jeff Gordon and Jimmie Johnson are with Hendrick Motorsports.

There would seem to be a delicate balance when teammates compete against each other on the racetrack, particularly when it's for a title. How much information do you share? How much help do you offer on or off the track? According to the drivers involved, there's no problem at all.

"We're going to work together six days out of the week and we're going to race on the seventh," said Busch after he and Kenseth finished 1-2 last Sunday in Round One of the playoff at New Hampshire International Speedway. "I definitely think teammates will help."

"We've got three cars in the final chase for the Cup and I think we've done an excellent job as a team balancing the different characters and the different ways of creating a setup for each driver."

Until the last 10 years or so, it would have been virtually unthinkable for teams and drivers to share information. Racing was a fraternity filled with secrets and with competitors trying to get a leg up on everyone else.

"We never shared nothing if we could help it," said longtime stock car king Richard Petty, who won seven championships and 200 races in a career that ended in 1992. "It was hard enough to stay ahead of the competition for even a little while without telling somebody else what you were doing."

"And nobody really wanted teammates much."

Now, just about everybody has at least one teammate, and it's considered a plus by most.

"There aren't a lot of secrets anymore, anyway," said Chad Knaus, crew chief for Johnson. "The teams all work too close to-



Jeff Gordon, left, is pursuing his fifth Nextel Cup title and Jimmie Johnson, right, his first, but the Hendrick Motorsports teammates are sharing information at every track. "During the week, the guys in the shop sometimes don't even know whose car they are working on," Gordon said. "When we get to the racetrack, it's an open-book policy of information."

gether in the garage, and we stay at the same hotels and eat in the same restaurants and people move from team to team. Information gets around."

Still, how much do you share with your teammate when you're trying to beat them?

"We share all our information at Roush,"

said Kenseth, whose Cup teammates also include Greg Biffle and rookie Kyle Edwards.

"We've done that the last few years since, as a company, we had a terrible year in 2001."

Four-time series champion Gordon and Johnson, who has only been in Cup races

for three years, have not faced the struggles the Roush drivers did, but they are equally free with their information sharing.

"Our teams work the way they work and this is really the only way we know to go about it," said Gordon. "Cup teammates also include Terry Labonte and rookie Brian Vickers."

"During the week, the guys in the shop sometimes don't even know whose car they are working on," Gordon added. "When we get to the racetrack, it's an open-book policy of information. We know what every Hendrick car has underneath it."

"When we're on the racetrack, we're competitors. We want one of us to win this championship. But, as far as sharing information as to what the cars are doing, I don't think that's ever going to change. Because I'm going to help him to confirm what I'm doing and vice versa. It helps both of us out and helps both of our cars go faster."

Going into Round Two of the title showdown, Sunday at Dover, Busch is in a first-place tie with Dale Earnhardt Jr., just ahead of Gordon, Kenseth and Johnson. Behind them are Elliott Sadler, Martin, Tony Stewart, Ryan Newman and Jeremy Mayfield.

Each of them has at least one teammate, though none of the others are involved in the championship. And teammates aren't always a big help.

At New Hampshire, Earnhardt was upset with DEI teammate Michael Waltrip for racing Junior hard late in the race when Earnhardt, who finished third, was trying to catch Kenseth.

"I was upset by it," Earnhardt said. "I'm sure Michael didn't mean anything by it. I'm sure he was just trying to race and do what you do. I needed a little help there and I expected to get a little and I didn't get any."

When that situation was mentioned to team owner Jack Roush, he replied that he hopes there will be nothing like that going on among his drivers, whom he expects to race each other — and everyone else — hard and clean.

"There's no expectation that anybody wins or that anybody would pull over for anybody else," Roush said. "I just hope that none of the guys take one another out-

ended by the 10th caution and darkness."

Last year, Brendan Gaughan picked up his fifth victory of 2003 by winning the Las Vegas 350, becoming the ninth driver in NASCAR history to win at least that many in a season.

Next race: American Racing Wheels 200, Oct. 2, Fontana, Calif.

CHAMP CARS

Last race: Bridgestone 400 at Las Vegas (Tape-delayed, 1 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 22).

Last race: Patrick Carpentier won the 2003 Indy 500, becoming the first driver to win the Indianapolis 500 and the IndyCar Series in the same season.

Next race: Oct. 17, Seoul, South Korea.

FORMULA ONE

Last race: Chinese Grand Prix at Shanghai.

Last race: Rubens Barrichello overcame an early pit stop and won the Italian Grand Prix on Sep. 22, showing finished ahead of series champion Michael Schumacher in a 1-2 showing by Ferrari on his home track.

Next race: Japanese Grand Prix, Oct. 10, Suzuka.

NASCAR NEXTEL CUP

Race 28: MBNA America 400, 2 a.m. Monday, AFN-Sports.

Last race: Kurt Busch began the 10-race championship showdown by winning the Sylva 300 at Loudon, N.H., Busch swept both 400 events at New Hampshire and moved into a tie with Dale

Earnhardt Jr. for the series points lead.

Last year: Ryan Newman overcame a flat tire that cost him two laps, then gambled on fuel and completed a sweep of the races at Dover with a win in the MBNA America 400.

DRIVERS TO WATCH

Mark Martin: A sentimental favorite to win the Nextel Cup title 10-over after getting tangled up in a four-lap crash, but he has four career Cup victories at Dover on June 6.

Ryan Newman: Martin struggled to find the quality for the 10-over after getting tangled up in a four-lap crash, but he has four career Cup victories at Dover on June 6.

Tony Stewart: Martin struggled to find the quality for the 10-over after getting tangled up in a four-lap crash, but he has four career Cup victories at Dover on June 6.



Nextel Cup qualifying record
Jimmie Johnson, 161.521 mph, 2004.
Nextel Cup race record
Mark Martin, 132.719 mph, Sept. 21, 1997.

FAST FACTS

POINTS RACE

After 27 of 36 races

1. Dale Earnhardt Jr. 5,210
2. Kurt Busch 5,210
3. Jeff Gordon 5,201
4. Matt Kenseth 5,200
5. Jimmie Johnson 5,180

6. Elliott Sutter 5,172

7. Mark Martin 5,139

8. Tony Stewart 5,086

9. Ryan Newman 5,074

10. Jeremy Mayfield 5,068

11. Jamie McMurray 5,331

12. Casey Mears 3,268

13. Kevin Harvick 3,268

14. Bobby Labonte 3,246

15. Dale Jarrett 3,152

16. Michael Waltrip 2,981

17. Rusty Wallace 2,946

18. Sterling Marlin 2,879

19. Jeff Burton 2,864

20. Casey Mears 2,843

BUSCH SERIES

This week: Stacker 200 at Dover, Del. (Tape-delayed, 8 a.m. Sunday, AFN-Sports).

Last race: Robby Gordon went from third to first in a three-car battle with 15 laps to go and held to win the Emerson 200 at Richmond, Va. on Sept. 19.

Last year: Teenager Brian Vickers took the lead in the Busch standings after winning the Stacker 200.

Next race: Mr. Goodcents 300, Oct. 9, Kansas City, Kan.

INDY RACING

Last race: Adrian Fernandez won his second race in a month by taking the Delphi Indy 300 in Joliet, Ill. The race featured a safety crash by 10th winner Buddy Rice, who walked away unscathed despite his car skidding upside down along the track.

Next race: Toyota Indy 400, Oct. 3, Fontana, Calif.

CRAFTSMAN TRUCK

This week: Las Vegas 350 (Tape-delayed, noon Tuesday, AFN-Sports).

Last race: Travis Kvapil had just enough gas to win the Sylva 200 race at Loudon, N.H. Kvapil was seven laps in length ahead of Jack Sprague with two laps remaining when the race was

Roethlisberger hopes to build future

Steelers QB hoping to fare better than past rookies, like Bradshaw

BY ALAN ROBINSON
The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Ben Roethlisberger knows one thing: His first NFL start can't be much worse than those of the Pittsburgh Steelers' last three rookie starting quarterbacks, including one named Terry Bradshaw.

Roethlisberger was drafted No. 11 in April to be the Steelers' quarterback of the future, only to see that future arrive much more quickly than he or the Steelers anticipated.

With starter Tommy Maddox (torn elbow ligament) out at least six weeks and backup Charlie Batch (knee) out for the season, Roethlisberger will become the first Steelers rookie quarterback in 34 years to start as early as the third game of the season.

The last to do so? Bradshaw, a Hall of Famer whose debut shouldn't be hard for Roethlisberger to top. Bradshaw was only 4-for-16 for 70 yards in a 19-7 loss to the Rams in the 1970 opener, a performance the No. 1 draft pick replicated numerous times while throwing six touchdown passes and 24 interceptions as a rookie.

"I'm just approaching it as a chance to play football, starting again," Roethlisberger said of his Sunday start at Miami.

"Unfortunately it had to come at the expense of someone getting hurt. You never

want that. But you have to be able to step up when your name is called."

The only other Steelers rookie QBs to start since then didn't do much better.

Mike Kruczek was the only one to win, going 5-for-12 for 58 yards and an interception in a 23-6 victory over Cincinnati in 1976. Bobby Brister was 12-for-33 for 191 yards in a 24-22 Monday night loss to Cincinnati in 1986, then started only once more until winning the starting job in 1988.

Kruczek not only won his debut, but his first nine NFL starts — though there possibly should be an asterisk involved. With Bradshaw injured, Kruczek was mostly asked to hand the ball to dual 1,000-yard running backs Franco Harris and Rocky Bleier and get out of the way. He also was supported by arguably the best defense in NFL history, one that had five shutouts and allowed only 28 points in those nine games.

These Steelers aren't adopting a "Let's save the rookie" attitude like those 1976 Steelers did, if only because they don't feel it is necessary. Roethlisberger showed what he could do by throwing two touchdown passes in less than two quarters after Maddox was hurt in a 30-13 loss Sunday in Baltimore.

"He has all the attributes of being a great quarterback in the league," wide receiver Plaxico Burress said Wednesday. "He can throw the ball 70 yards in the air,

he can make all the throws. I think he is going to be just fine."

So does James Ward, who leads the NFL with 250 yards receiving. He successfully adjusted to a quarterback change two Septemberers ago when Maddox took over for Kordell Stewart, but he said changing quarterbacks during the season can be difficult.

"It's tough but, at the same time, you've got to be disciplined about it," he said. "If I go out there and run my routes, it's up to the quarterback to put the ball in my hands. I can't go out there and try to compensate for Ben. When you do that, turn-over starts to happen."

"I just do my job, regardless of who the signal caller is."

Former All-Pro guard Alan Faneca was criticized for saying he "wasn't excited" about the change, but Faneca insisted he wasn't being critical of the rookie.

"What is there to be excited about, your starting quarterback being hurt in the second game?" Faneca said. "I have confidence in Ben. I saw him today while I was working out and I told him, 'The comment had nothing to do with you.' ... I definitely don't think it's a desperate situation."

Neither does Roethlisberger, the former Miami, Ohio, star who set numerous All-American Conference passing records. He knows a Dolphins defense that has allowed the second-fewest yards in the league will throw a lot at him, but he feels ready for it.



Pittsburgh Steelers quarterback Ben Roethlisberger will become the first Steelers rookie quarterback in 34 years to start as early as the third game of the season.

"The biggest thing is not necessarily how I play, but that we win. That's my No. 1 goal," Roethlisberger said. "I could be the worst quarterback out there, but if we come out with a victory, that's all that matters to me."

Mike Kruczek could tell him all about that.

Arrington out for Redskins

The Associated Press

ASHBURN, Va. — Washington Redskins linebacker LaVar Arrington will likely miss Monday night's game against the Dallas Cowboys after a flare-up of a knee injury.

Arrington missed practice Thursday to travel to Birmingham, Ala., to meet with a doctor who was to determine whether the three-time Pro Bowl linebacker needed surgery.

Surgery would probably sideline Arrington 2-4 weeks.

Even if the operation isn't required, coach Joe Gibbs said he would take a "miracle" for Arrington to play Monday.

Arrington sprained his right knee in the season opener against Tampa Bay and was limited to Sunday's loss to the New York Giants and made seven tackles, but he wasn't the dominating presence that has perennially made him one of the league's top line

backers. Also, quarterback Mark Brunell is expected to sit out Monday's game with a strained hamstring. Defensive end Phillip Daniels is out at least two weeks with a strained groin, and middle linebacker Mike Barrow has yet

NFL injury update

Injuries to prominent NFL players, followed by their prognoses, are listed on Page 32 for complete injury report provided by the league.

Bears: CB Charles Tillman (knee) out 7-10 weeks.

Bengals: QB Carl Puvion (knee) underwent arthroscopic surgery.

Chargers: QB Drew Brees (mild concussion) likely to start Sunday.

Falcons: RB Warren Dunbar (knee) questionable for Sunday.

Akers: RB Kevin Barlow (knee) expected to play Sunday.

Colts: CB Felton Sanders (hamstring) questionable for Sunday.

to play this season because of tendinitis in his knee.

Colts RB James upgraded to questionable

INDIANAPOLIS — Indianapolis Colts running back Edgerrin James was upgraded from doubtful to questionable for this week's game against Green Bay despite missing Wednesday's practice with a strained hamstring.

Coach Tony Dungy said James worked out earlier in the day but was held out of the afternoon practice because he could help clear up James' status.

"I would not anticipate him playing, but if he practices tomorrow, that would be a step toward playing," Dungy said. "If he can't practice, that will tell us something else."

James was injured on a 30-yard touchdown run that sealed the Colts' 31-17 victory at Tennessee on Sunday. After the game, James said he was fine. But, an MRI exam on Monday revealed damage, and Dungy said it was doubtful he would play.

If James doesn't start, Dominic Rhodes will. Rhodes rushed for 1,104 yards — an NFL record for undrafted rookies — when he replaced James for the final 10 games of the 2001 season.

Johnson angry over Vermeil remark

BY DOUG TUCKER
The Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, Mo. — Larry Johnson reacted sharply to Dick Vermeil's comments that the seldom-used Kansas City Chiefs running back "take the diapers off" if he plays this week in place of injured Priest Holmes.

Johnson, a first-round draft pick out of Penn State, might be pressed into action Sunday against Houston if Holmes is still hobbled by a sore ankle. He has expressed his unhappiness over not playing, and on Wednesday dismissed the suggestion that Vermeil was trying to motivate him with comments made in his weekly news conference.

"I do need no motivation," Johnson said. "If I need motivation, I'll talk to my father. I don't need another grown man telling me I need to take the diapers off."

"That's not how I've been raised, and I don't need no motivation from anybody. I'm self-motivated because my father taught me to be that way."

Johnson has played sparingly behind Holmes, even dropping to third team behind Derrick Byaklock. Larry Johnson, his father, is defensive line coach at Penn State.

"I don't really listen to that kind of stuff," the younger Johnson said of Vermeil's comments. "If the team can't say something in my face, that's how I feel. It doesn't mean nothing to me."

"If I need motivation, I'll talk to my father. I don't need another grown man telling me I need to take the diapers off. That's not how I've been raised, and I don't need no motivation from anybody."

Vermeil, whose team (0-2) has already been beset by distractions and injuries, said the remark "just popped into my scrambled head."

"He's got some pressure on him now because if Priest doesn't play, he's going to be carrying a load, and it's a lot of responsibility that so far he has a way to go to prove he can handle it," Vermeil said. "And I'm looking forward to giving him the opportunity if Priest can't play."

Although the comment was made in jest, "in a way, there's a little bit of truth to it," Vermeil said.

"I like Larry and I see his talent. And I've spent more time with Larry Johnson than all my roster combined in the last two years, and so has everybody else in this building. And sooner or later, he's going to recognize that," Vermeil said.

Vermeil made it clear the day Johnson was drafted that he would have preferred to take a defensive player. But Holmes was coming off hip surgery, and the organization decided it needed insurance at running back.

Last season, Johnson had 20

carries for 65 yards, including a 15-yard touchdown run.

"Yes, it's a little frustrating when they bring you here and they can't tell you whether you're going to play or you're not going to play," Johnson said. "That's just how I feel. By no means I'm going to stop going hard here and going hard every day in practice. It's just something that's frustrating right now and would be to anybody who's in my position."

Vermeil said he understands Johnson's frustration.

"The kid wants to play football badly. He loves to play," Vermeil said. "But in this league they just don't automatically retire Priest Holmes."

"He has all the talent in the world," Vermeil said of Johnson, "and sooner or later, he'll have his opportunity to take advantage of it."

Asked if the statement would have an impact on his relationship with the coach, Johnson said, "It affects a lot of things."

"But that's between him and me to figure that out. There's a lot of things going on that I want to address but I want to wait to the right time for me to do that."

Larry Johnson

Kansas City Chiefs running back

Hamilton to keep gold from Olympics

BY JONATHAN FROWLER

The Associated Press

GENEVA — Tyler Hamilton kept his Olympic cycling gold medal because a backup drug test was inconclusive, the International Olympic Committee said Thursday.

Hamilton tested positive for signs of blood doping in the initial test Aug. 19, after his time-trial victory in Athens. But analysis of the backup sample failed to confirm the original finding because of "lack of enough intact red blood cells," the IOC said in a statement from its Lausanne headquarters.

As a result, the IOC said it had dropped its investigation into the case and "would not be pursuing sanctions regarding this matter."

Though Hamilton, a native of Marblehead, Mass., was cleared of any Olympic doping violation, a similar backup blood test came back positive from the Spanish Vuelta, his Swiss racing team Phonak, said. That test was conducted Sept. 11.

The tests allegedly showed evidence of a blood transfusion from another person, Phonak has said. Blood transfusions can boost endurance by pumping oxygen-rich red blood cells to the muscles.

Usually, an athlete is punished only when two samples from the same event test positive.

It was unclear whether the International Cycling Union would take action against Hamilton for the positive tests in Spain. If found guilty of blood doping, the 33-year-old American could face a two-year ban from the sport.

The IOC said it was informed Aug. 22 by the drug-testing laboratory in Athens that Hamilton's blood sample produced a "suspicious result." A group of experts studied the case and concluded



A test for blood doping for cyclist Tyler Hamilton was not conclusive, the IOC said on Thursday.

Sept. 16 that the sample was positive.

The IOC set up a disciplinary panel to deal with the case, which could have led to Hamilton being disqualified and stripped of his medal. But the IOC said it was informed Wednesday that Hamilton's backup sample was "considered as nonconclusive." On Thursday, the panel decided to dismiss the case.

However, the IOC said, "The fact that the analysis of the B sample was not conclusive does not challenge the accuracy of the analysis of the A sample."

The IOC said the testing method used in Athens was authorized by the World Anti-Doping Agency after being validated by international scientists. WADA chief Dick Pound said he was surprised by the different test results.

"We're perfectly satisfied that the test properly implemented is entirely reliable," he told The Associated Press. "But how the test was applied or what was analyzed and all that sort of stuff, I don't know."

Hamilton said Tuesday he was innocent and denied receiving a transfusion. He repeated the denials Thursday.

Cycling's governing body had informed cyclists at the start of the season that it planned to start using a new blood-screening machine in the tests that detects blood transfusions, human growth hormone and synthetic hemoglobin. Until now, there has been no foolproof test for detecting blood transfusions.

Phonak said it plans to investigate the accuracy of the new tests.

Three Far East keys limited to U.S. schools

BY DAVE ORNAUER

Stars and Stripes

CAMP FOSTER, Okinawa — Department of Defense Dependents Schools-Pacific officials announced this week that Far East tournaments in tennis, cross country and wrestling will include only DODDS teams.

That eliminates the participation of international schools, which have attended these tournaments as invited guests since the 1960s. The change is effective immediately, including the tennis and cross country events scheduled for November.

In a written statement to Stars and Stripes, DODDS-Pacific's Far East Activities Council chair Don Hobbs said the decision was made at the DODDS-Pacific regional office at Okinawa's Torii Station, "after receiving input from administrators, event directors and a lengthy discussion with district superintendents."

"The decision was based on a number of factors, including the availability of billing, facilities, logistics and resources," Hobbs said in the statement.

Teams participating in Far East tournaments are billeted in on-base quarters and are held in DODDS school gyms or other military fitness centers on base.

The decision triggered a mixed reaction from coaches and players.

"It would have been an honor to play against such awesome players like Kadenia and tennis player Amy Lopes, who placed fourth in last year's Far East tournament."

She lost in the semifinals to eventual champion, Aska Dvorjak of Seisen International, then in the third-place match to Malika Hayashi of American School in Japan. Both players are back at their respective schools.

Not having an opportunity to

play them again "is a loss," Lopes said. They bring so much competitive spirit to the tournament."

Said Kadena junior cross-country runner Niki Kaulzarich, "You can say you're a DODDS-Pacific champion, but not a true Far East champion. I wish that rule would change. It's not as much competition."

Osan American tennis coach Bruce Barker said the lack of international schools has advantages and drawbacks.

"It's nice to see those other schools there, see how much better they are and our kids like to watch those kids play, see how hard they work and realize if they work that hard, they can get up to that level," he said. "But this gives the DODDS kids a chance to be in the spotlight."

DODDS-Pacific conducts Far East tournaments in six sports. The change does not affect the basketball, volleyball and soccer tournaments, which are divided into Class AA and Class A based on school enrollment.

Lack of billeting due to military exercises forced last year's Far East wrestling tournament at Yokota Air Base, Japan, to be pushed forward a week and the boys Class A basketball tournament at Osan Air Base, South Korea, to be pushed back a week.

The Far East tournaments most immediately affected by the decision are cross country, scheduled for Nov. 8-10 at Robert D. Edgren High School at Misawa Air Base, Japan, and tennis, Nov. 10-12, at Kadena Air Base, Okinawa.

Thomas Junta of Reading, Mass., is serving a 6-10-year prison sentence for his 2001 conviction on an involuntary manslaughter charge.

The 6-foot-1, 270-pound truck driver beat 160-year-old Michael Junta to death at a Reading ice rink in July 2000 after Junta aged angry over rough play on the ice.

Prosecutors said Junta used his size to overpower Costin, then pounded his head on the floor until he lost consciousness. Costin was declared dead the next day.

Junta testified at his trial that he struck Costin only in self-defense. But a medical examiner said Costin suffered severe brain injuries, and others said Junta was red-faced with rage.

Japan baseball averts another strike

TOKYO — Japan's professional baseball players averted a second strike this week-

He also said that he feels badly for the international students who will miss out on Far East, such as Zolboo Enkhbayar, a two-time Far East most outstanding wrestler who would have had a chance in February to become only the second foreign individual gold medalist in Far East history.

"But he takes it away from a DODDS kid," Kitts said. "That's not fair. These tournaments were designed for DODDS kids."

The international schools, mainly from Tokyo, Seoul and Manila have dominated Far East tennis and cross country since the tournaments began in the late 1970s. Only one DODDS-Pacific school, Kadena High on Okinawa, has won an overall team title in either sport, cross country in 1984 and 2002 and tennis in 1989.

That was not a factor in the decision, according to the Hobbs' statement, which added that DODDS-Pacific values the long-standing relationship it has had with international schools, who play against DODDS schools in regular-season leagues in Japan and Korea.

"We encourage participation at every level and hope that relationships we have built throughout the Pacific will continue," the statement said. "The long-standing partnerships have fostered goodwill... We want to continue [that partnership]."

A handful of international schools' athletics directors said they would try to form season-ending tournaments independent of Far East events. Junta said, "I was given to pulling out of league play with DODDS schools."

"I can't imagine KIAIC [Korean-American Interscholastic Activities Conference] breaking up," said J.P. Rader, Seoul Foreign athletic director and KIAIC president. "But the end of season, that could be a different story."

E-mail Dave Ornauer at: ornauer@starsandstripes.com

Rangers drop appeals for last week's suspensions

The Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — Rangers relievers Frank Francisco, Doug Brocail and Carlos Almanzar dropped their appeals Wednesday of suspensions that stemmed from the altercation with fans near the Texas bullpen in October last week.

Each suspension was reduced by one game, the Rangers announced after their game against the Athletics.

Francisco threw a plastic chair into the stands near the visitors' bullpen in Oakland that broke the nose of a woman whose husband had been heckling throughout the game on Sept. 13. Francisco started serving his 16-game suspension Saturday, pending an appeal.

Francisco's suspension was reduced to 15 games, which will carry through the final game of the regular season.

Almanzar began serving his four-game suspension Wednesday night, and will be eligible to return Sunday, the day Brocail

Sports briefs

will begin his six-game suspension.

Almanzar and Brocail pitched Tuesday. Each of the pitchers would be eligible for the playoffs.

Mickelson withdraws from next week's \$7 million World Golf Championship

PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla. — Masters champion Phil Mickelson withdrew from next week's American Express Championship in Ireland for personal reasons, the PGA Tour said Thursday.

Mickelson, No. 4 in the world ranking, is the third player in the top 50 to pull out of the \$7 million World Golf Championship event. Kenny Perry (No. 16) and Nick Price (No. 35) also withdrew.

Appeals court denies appeal of hockey dad convicted in beating death

BOSTON — The state appeals court on Thursday denied the appeal of a Reading

father who was convicted of beating another man to death during their sons' hockey practice.

Thomas Junta of Reading, Mass., is serving a 6-10-year prison sentence for his 2001 conviction on an involuntary manslaughter charge.

The 6-foot-1, 270-pound truck driver beat 160-year-old Michael Junta to death at a Reading ice rink in July 2000 after Junta aged angry over rough play on the ice.

Prosecutors said Junta used his size to overpower Costin, then pounded his head on the floor until he lost consciousness. Costin was declared dead the next day.

Junta testified at his trial that he struck Costin only in self-defense. But a medical examiner said Costin suffered severe brain injuries, and others said Junta was red-faced with rage.

Japan baseball averts another strike

TOKYO — Japan's professional baseball players averted a second strike this week-

end after team representatives softened their stance Thursday and agreed with management that a club may be added next season.

Following the merger of Kintetsu and Orix of the Pacific League, players insisted a team be allowed to enter next season.

Players staged the first strike in the 70-year history of Japanese baseball last weekend, wiping out 12 games.

Gatlin wins 100 in meet at Yokohama

YOKOHAMA, Japan — Olympic champion Justin Gatlin cruised to an easy victory in the men's 100 meters in the Yokohama Super track and field meet Thursday.

Gatlin finished in 9.97 seconds, well ahead of fellow American Leonard Scott, who finished in 10.14. Japan's Nobuharu Asahara was third (10.20).

Former world-record holder Maurice Greene of the United States, who won the gold in the 100 in the 2000 Sydney Games, finished fifth after a false start.

Mighty: Eckel, Polanco lead Midshipmen's running start

MIGHTY, FROM BACK PAGE

After rolling past Duke and Northeastern at home, Navy blew away Tulsa last Saturday 29-0, its first shutout of a Division I-A opponent since 1980. Still, Johnson isn't overly excited about being unbeaten in September.

"We can still lose eight games," he said.

Johnson came to Navy after an amazing five-year run at Georgia Southern, where he went 62-10 and won two Division I-AA championships. His success at Navy can be attributed to hard work, a solid coaching staff and an uncanny knowledge of the finer points of the triple-option attack.

The triple option is the great equalizer for the Mids because it does not require bruising line-men to open holes. It's all about making the defense guess whether the quarterback, tailback or fullback is going to end up with the ball.

"We've got smart guys. They're not dumb. They can look on the other end of the field and see who's bigger," Johnson said. "But they understand how to win. We've got some good athletes and we play hard."

Polanco has done well in Can-



Navy senior quarterback Aaron Polanco (6) has rushed for 309 yards and amassed 591 total yards in three games this season.

deto's place, running for 309 yards in three games and throwing for 282 yards on 16 attempts.

Eckel has flourished too; he ran for three touchdowns against Tulsa and is on course to become only the third Midshipman to amass 3,000 career rushing yards.

"We've been running this offense for a long time," said Johnson, who was Navy's offensive coordinator in 1995-96, "and a lot of different guys have had success."

The hope is that the run will continue.

"As long as coach Johnson is here and the players react to what he's teaching them," Polanco said, "this program will be a winner."

Making a stand by sitting

Dodgers OF Green will miss at least one game to observe the holiest day on the Jewish calendar

Shawn Green is anguishing over the same conflict that confronted Hall of Famers Sandy Koufax and Hank Greenberg.

The game or the synagogue? A pennant race or prayers?

In Green's case, he's torn about missing two critical games for the Los Angeles Dodgers against the San Francisco Giants on the holiest of the Jewish Holy Days, Yom Kippur, from sundown Friday night to sundown Saturday.

Should he play one game and abstain from the other, seeking a compromise in his commitments to his team and his faith? Should he play both games or attend services, fast and refrain from work in solemn observance of The Day of Atonement?

Will he be criticized one way or another? No doubt, but he has to answer only to himself.

"It's a really tough deal," Green said Wednesday night before the Dodgers lost to San Diego 4-0 and saw their NL West lead over San Francisco shrink to a half-game.

"I've bounced back and forth about just trying to do the right thing. It's hard to know what that is. I've really been toying with two different options: Play one of them or not play at all. I will miss at least one game."

To play or not to play on Yom Kippur is a personal decision for a Jewish ballplayer that can have a larger impact.

"It strikes a chord with each one of us who has to wonder, 'What do I do in this situation? Do I go to work? Am I going to observe my faith in a very visible way? Or do I just go with the flow?'" said Rabbi David Fine, Pacific Northwest regional director for the Union for Reform Judaism.

Koufax and Greenberg won the everlasting affection of American Jews, and the respect of many non-Jews, by observing Yom Kippur rather than playing in big games — Koufax in the 1965 World Series as pitching ace and Greenberg in the 1934 pennant race as the slugger for the Detroit Tigers.

"It's not quite a profile in courage, but it's still a courageous stand," said Fine, who grew up in Detroit hearing about Greenberg long after the last of his 331 home runs and his 58 in 1938. "It's when baseball players really become heroes in the eyes of those of us who watch them. It's when they go beyond good players to being real examples and role models."

Koufax attended synagogue in



With the Los Angeles Dodgers in a tight pennant race, Shawn Green is trying to decide if he will miss one game or two to observe Yom Kippur, the Jewish Day of Atonement. Green, who said he will sit out at least one game, entered Thursday hitting .267 with 27 home runs and 81 RBIs.

Minnesota instead of pitching in Game 1 of the '65 Series against the Twins. Don Drysdale pitched that day and gave up seven runs in 2 1/2 innings. When manager Walter Alston came out to pull him from the game, Drysdale cracked, "I bet right now you wish I was Jewish, too."

Greenberg wrestled with whether to play on Rosh Hashana, the Jewish New Year. He spoke to his rabbi about it, got a dispensation to play, and hit two homers that day. The Detroit Free Press ran a banner headline, in Hebrew, that read: "Happy New Year, Hank."

On Yom Kippur, the pennant not quite clinched, Greenberg sat. "Greenberg's decision electrified the American Jewish community, and generations of people remember that with incredible pride," said Martin Abramowitz, who recently helped the Hall of Fame organize "A celebration of Jews in baseball."

The world has changed in 70 years — Green doesn't have to face the same anti-Semitism that Greenberg did. But the issues are the same and it's still a matter of a man examining his principles and conscience.

"Greenberg's choice [was] how to balance loyalty to parents, religion, and tradition with commitment to his American profession and his desire to fully participate in American life," historian Peter Levine wrote.

Sitting out on Yom Kippur made Greenberg a model for second-generation Jews struggling with similar issues at work.

Green, who sat out on Yom Kippur three years ago and ended a streak of 415 games played, is making an impact even as he considers doing it again in a more crucial situation for his team.

"In some ways it's a contribution not only to the American Jewish community but to America to have the spotlight on someone who is publicly responding to a question of his religious obligation," Abramowitz said. "That in itself is a gift for us all."

Green has 27 homers this season and is the most accomplished of 10 active Jewish players. He was among the 143 ballplayers honored during the Hall of Fame celebration. Another, former Oakland pitcher Ken Holtzman, told of his refusal to dress for a game on Yom Kippur in the 1973 play-offs against Baltimore.

He was surprised when a limousine arrived at his Baltimore hotel on Yom Kippur morning to whisk him to a synagogue, where he was escorted to the front row and welcomed by Orioles owner Jerry Hoffberger.

Holtzman must have found some blessings because he won the next game 2-1 with a three-hitter over 11 innings.

Ron Blomberg, who won trivia fame by becoming the first designated hitter, was also among the Jewish players celebrated by the Hall. In 1971 at Yankee Stadium against Cleveland, he, too, chose to sit out on Yom Kippur and became known as "the Sundown Kid."

"It was ... nearing sundown at home, the game, two outs in the bottom of the ninth with a man on third base," Blomberg told the Long Island Press. "I'm up 1-0. I don't do it. We go past sundown, and if we go past sundown, I'm going to have to leave. I hit a single to center field and we won the game. From that day on I was idolized by every Jew in the city."

Steve Wilestein is a national sports columnist for The Associated Press. Write to him at swilestein@aol.com.

Pittsburgh wary of Furman

The Associated Press

The Pittsburgh Panthers prepare for a first when they meet Furman on Saturday.

No Big East team has played the Paladins, ranked second in Division I-AA. Led by junior quarterback Ingie Martin, a Florida transfer, Furman (3-0) is averaging 37.3 points and 545.5 yards this season.

Pittsburgh coach Walt Harris said he isn't overlooking what can be a dangerous opponent.

"This is their bowl game. We know we'll get their best shot," Harris said.

The Paladins also have to concern themselves with a Furman. Pitt senior Marcus Furman returned a kickoff 96 yards last week in the Panthers' 24-17 loss to Nebraska. He's ranked fifth nationally in kickoff returns with a 32.0-yard average.

The Panthers will try to keep alive the longest current scoring streak in the Big East. Pitt has scored in 92 straight games.

bad credit, no credit, no problem

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Major League Baseball scoreboard

American League

Royals 7, Devil Rays 6 (10)

Mariners 16, Angels 6

Giants 5, Astros 1

Arizona 001 018-2
002 001 018-2

East Division	W	L	Pct	GB
New York Yankees	91	60	.603	4
Baltimore Orioles	89	62	.591	4.5
Tampa Bay Rays	64	87	.424	21.5
Toronto Blue Jays	61	90	.406	24

Central Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Minnesota Twins	76	76	.500	0
Chicago White Sox	69	83	.450	7.5
Cleveland Indians	68	84	.447	8
St. Louis Cardinals	68	83	.447	8
Pittsburgh Pirates	67	84	.443	9

West Division	W	L	Pct	GB
Oakland Athletics	65	87	.432	0
Anaheim Angels	65	87	.432	0
Seattle Mariners	58	94	.382	29

Wednesday's games	W	L	Pct	GB
Kansas City Royals @ Tampa Bay Devil Rays	7-6	0-1		
Boston Red Sox @ Baltimore Orioles	12-11	0-0		
N.Y. Yankees @ N.Y. Yankees	4-1	0-0		
Cleveland Indians @ Detroit Tigers	6-5	0-0		

Thursday's games	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago White Sox @ Minnesota Twins	6-5	0-0		
Seattle Mariners @ Texas Rangers	5-4	0-0		
N.Y. Yankees @ Tampa Bay Devil Rays	7-6	0-0		
Minnesota Twins @ Kansas City Royals	5-4	0-0		

Friday's games	W	L	Pct	GB
N.Y. Yankees @ Minnesota Twins	15-9	0-0		
Minnesota Twins @ Cleveland Indians	11-1	0-0		
Toronto Blue Jays @ Tampa Bay Devil Rays	9-8	0-0		
Cleveland Indians @ Baltimore Orioles	12-11	0-0		

Saturday's games	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto Blue Jays @ Baltimore Orioles	12-11	0-0		
Seattle Mariners @ Tampa Bay Devil Rays	7-6	0-0		
Chicago White Sox @ Minnesota Twins	6-5	0-0		
Seattle Mariners @ Texas Rangers	5-4	0-0		

Sunday's games	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto Blue Jays @ Baltimore Orioles	12-11	0-0		
Seattle Mariners @ Tampa Bay Devil Rays	7-6	0-0		
Chicago White Sox @ Minnesota Twins	6-5	0-0		
Seattle Mariners @ Texas Rangers	5-4	0-0		

Monday's games	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto Blue Jays @ Baltimore Orioles	12-11	0-0		
Seattle Mariners @ Tampa Bay Devil Rays	7-6	0-0		
Chicago White Sox @ Minnesota Twins	6-5	0-0		
Seattle Mariners @ Texas Rangers	5-4	0-0		

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Chicago White Sox @ Minnesota Twins	6-5	0-0		
Seattle Mariners @ Texas Rangers	5-4	0-0		

Thursday's games	W	L	Pct	GB
Toronto Blue Jays @ Baltimore Orioles	12-11	0-0		
Seattle Mariners @ Tampa Bay Devil Rays	7-6	0-0		
Chicago White Sox @ Minnesota Twins	6-5	0-0		
Seattle Mariners @ Texas Rangers	5-4	0-0		

KANSAS CITY	W	L	Pct	GB
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0

TAMPA BAY	W	L	Pct	GB
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0

SEATTLE	W	L	Pct	GB
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0

ANAHEIM	W	L	Pct	GB
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0

HOUSTON	W	L	Pct	GB
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0

SAN FRANCISCO	W	L	Pct	GB
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0

ST. LOUIS	W	L	Pct	GB
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0

MILWAUKEE	W	L	Pct	GB
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0

CHICAGO	W	L	Pct	GB
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0

PITTSBURGH	W	L	Pct	GB
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0

CLEVELAND	W	L	Pct	GB
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0

DETROIT	W	L	Pct	GB
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0

MINNESOTA	W	L	Pct	GB
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0

CHICAGO	W	L	Pct	GB
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0

ST. LOUIS	W	L	Pct	GB
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0

MILWAUKEE	W	L	Pct	GB
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0

CHICAGO	W	L	Pct	GB
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0

PITTSBURGH	W	L	Pct	GB
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0

CLEVELAND	W	L	Pct	GB
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0
Bleasue	10	0	1.000	0

ShStwrt lf	5	0	2	0	Rwand cf	4	1	1	1
Jones rf	4	2	1	2	WHarris 2b	3	0	1	1
Hnter cf	3	1	0	0	Knerko 1b	5	1	2	1
Koskie 3b	4	0	1	1	CEvrtt dh	3	1	0	0
eCroy 1b	4	1	2	1	Burke c	3	1	1	0
hartlett nr	0	0	0	0	Gload if	4	0	2	1

Cubs' Maddux gets 15th victory yet again

Hits milestone 17th straight season in gaining win No. 304; Chicago ties Giants

The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Greg Maddux reached 15 victories for a record 17th consecutive season and hit a two-run single during a four-run second inning, leading the Chicago Cubs over Pittsburgh 6-3 on Thursday for their third series sweep of the Pirates this year.

Chicago moved into a tie for the NL wild-card lead with San Francisco, which played Thursday. The Cubs completed a 7-2 road trip and won for the 17th time in 15 games. The Cubs head to New York for a three-game series against the Mets, then finish the season at home with four games against Cincinnati and three against Atlanta.

Maddux (15-10) improved to 3-1 against Pittsburgh this season, allowing three runs and seven hits in six innings with no walks and six strikeouts. Maddux, 20th on the career list with 334 victories, last year surpassed Cy Young's 15 consecutive 15-win seasons.

Nolan Figueroa (0-3) gave up four runs and five hits in two innings for Pittsburgh, which has lost eight of 10. Figueroa, who has an 8.25 ERA in 12 innings over the season starts, started in place of rookie John Van Benschoten, sidelined by stiffness in his right shoulder.

Maddux took a 4-0 lead in the second. Sammy Sosa walked leading off, Nomar Garciaparra dou-



Chicago Cubs shortstop Nomar Garciaparra avoids Pittsburgh's Jason Bay to turn a double play during the sixth inning of Thursday's game.

bled, Matt Grudzielanek hit an RBI single and Paul Bako doubled in a run before Maddux's single. It was the ninth multiple-RBI game of Maddux's career.

Cardinals 4, Brewers 2: St. Louis reached 100 victories for the first time since 1985 and the seventh time in franchise history, beating host Milwaukee behind Yadier Molina's first major league home run.

Molina's two-out homer in the

eighth off Matt Wise (1-2) broke a 2-2 tie, and Hector Luna followed with his third homer of the season, his fourth hit of the game.

Rockies 7, Diamondbacks 1: Jeff Francis pitched six innings and host Colorado won the opener of a doubleheader.

Andy Tracy and Jeremy Burnitz hit RBI singles in the first inning and Francis (3-2) of five rookies in Colorado's lineup, made the early lead stand up, al-

lowing only Robbie Hammock's homer.

In Wednesday's NL games:

Giants 5, Astros 1: Noah Lowry (6-0) threw a five-hitter as San Francisco moved within a half-game of first-place Los Angeles in the NL West. The Giants are 9-1 in their past 10 games, with Lowry, a 23-year-old left-hander, winning three times. He retired 10 of the first 12 Houston hitters, allowing a second-inning solo homer to Jeff Kent and a single two batters later.

Lowry's 6-0 mark is the best by a Giants starter since Hooks Wiltse set the major league record in 1904 by winning his first 12 career decisions for New York.

Barry Bonds had an RBI triple in the first, but was intentionally walked four times thereafter. Roy Oswalt (18-10) failed to become the NL's first 19-game winner, allowing 10 hits — his most in 11 starts — and five earned runs in 5 1/2 innings.

Padres 4, Dodgers 0: Jake Peavy (13-6) pitched eight shut-out innings and Phil Nevin hit a two-run homer to lead host San Diego.

Los Angeles, which has lost five of seven, saw its lead drop to its smallest margin since it led the Giants by a half-game on July 15.

The Dodgers lost starting pitcher Brian Penny when the right-hander left in the fourth inning with nerve irritation in his upper right arm. Penny (9-10) was making his first start since Aug. 8.

Cubs 1, Pirates 0: Carlos Zambrano (15-8) outduelled Orlando Perez (10-10) and beat the host Pirates for the fifth straight time this season.

Sammy Sosa preserved the Cubs' sixth shutout with a sprawling, belly-droop catch of Ty Wigginton's bases-loaded, two-out line drive to right field in the eighth. Zambrano is the first pitcher to

beat the Pirates five times in a season since the New York Mets' Tom Seaver went 5-1 in 1973.

Phillies 12, Marlins 4: Pat Burrell hit a three-run homer and Eric Milton (14-4) won for the first time in more than a month, leading visiting Philadelphia over Florida.

Mike Lieberthal, Jason Michaels and Placido Polanco added two-run homers in the Phillies' second victory in two nights in Florida after 14 straight losses in Miami.

Reds 11, Braves 8: At Atlanta, Javier Valentin hit a three-run homer to cap Cincinnati's five-run comeback in the ninth off closer John Smoltz.

Smoltz (0-1) gave up four hits and five runs, walked a batter and threw two wild pitches while recording only one out. It was his fifth blown save in 45 chances this season.

Phil Norton (2-5) recorded one out in the eighth to win it.

Cardinals 3, Brewers 2: Larry Walker hit a two-run homer in the fifth, lifting St. Louis over the host Brewers.

Woody Williams (1-7) gave up one run and seven hits in 5 1/2 innings. Jason Irsinghausen worked the ninth for his 44th save.

Ben Sheets (11-13) struck out eight and had 245 strikeouts this season, passing Teddy Higuera's franchise record of 240, set in 1987.

Mets 3, Expos 2: Mike Piazza's RBI single in the eighth helped New York end a three-game losing skid and kept the Mets from falling into a tie for last place with Montreal in the NL East.

The Expos have been in last place since April 15.

Rockies 4, Diamondbacks 2: Shawn Estes (15-7) outpitched Colorado's 17 victories and Jeremy Burnitz hit his 37th homer to lift host Colorado over Arizona.

Texas strikes for three in ninth, sweeps Oakland

The Associated Press

ARLINGTON, Texas — Hank Blalock's solo homer and David Dellucci's two-run double rallied Texas in the ninth inning, and the Rangers beat the Oakland Athletics 5-4 on Thursday to complete a three-game sweep and move within two games of the AL West leaders.

Blalock's 32nd homer pulled the Rangers to 4-3 against Oakland (14-12) on Thursday. Michael Young doubled for his fourth hit and Mark Teixeira was intentionally walked, his team-record fifth walk of the game. Brian Jordan hit into a forceout, and Dellucci followed with a liner to right that was just out of the reach of diving Jermaine Dye.

Mark Kotsay, Adam Melhuse and Bobby Crosby homered for the Athletics (87-57) to lead both Texas and Anaheim by two games with 10 play.

Crosby's 21st homer, leading off the ninth against Jeff Nelson (1-2) gave the A's a 4-2 lead.



Dotel took over after Jim Mecir pitched a perfect eighth.

Yankees 7, Devil Rays 3: Derek Jeter hit a leadoff home run, Jon Lieber pitched into the eighth inning and host New York clinched its 10th consecutive play-off berth.

John Flaherty also homered for the Yankees (96-57), who are assured of no worse than a wild-card berth. They're guaranteed of finishing among the top two in the AL East, and no team can finish second in the AL Central or AL West with more than 95 victories.

Lieber (13-8) allowed three runs and 11 hits in 7 1/3 innings. Tom Gordon got two outs in the eighth, and Paul Quantrill finished with a perfect ninth.

Thursday's game was a makeup of an April 13 rainout, which at first was supposed to be played as

part of a Labor Day doubleheader but got pushed back again because Tampa Bay was delayed traveling due to a hurricane.

Aubrey Huff went 4-for-4 with an RBI for Tampa Bay, which has lost five of six and seven of nine.

In Wednesday's AL games:

Red Sox 7, Orioles 6: Orlando Cabrera homered off Rick Bauer (1-1) in the bottom of the 12th inning to lead the host Red Sox to their second straight lead at bat victory over Baltimore.

On Tuesday night, Mark Bellhorn's two-out, two-run single in the bottom of the ninth lifted the Red Sox to a 3-2 victory.

Curtis Leskanic (3-5) worked out of a bases-loaded jam with one out in the top of the inning for Wednesday night's victory.

Blue Jays 5, Yankees 4: Vernon Wells hit a go-ahead, two-run triple off Orlando Hernandez in the seventh as Toronto rallied past the host Yankees.

New York built a 3-0 lead on Bernie Williams' two-run homer

in the first and Ruben Sierra's solo shot in the second off Ted Lilly (12-10). Williams' drive gave the Yankees six hits with 20 or more homers for only the second time in their history, the first since 1961.

Hernandez (8-1) failed to become the first Yankees starter to win his first nine decisions since Tommy John in 1979.

Mariners 16, Angels 6: Raul Ibanez tied an AL record for a nine-inning game with six hits and Ichiro Suzuki led four more singles to pace visiting Seattle's 24-14 hitoutburst.

Suzuki set a team record with nine hits in two games. He has 247 hits and is 10 from tying George Sisler's 84-year-old record with 10 games left.

The Angels remained 2 1/2 games behind Oakland in the AL West, but dropped 6 1/2 games behind Boston in the wild-card race.

Rangers 5, Athletics 3: Kenny Rogers (17-8) matched a career high with his 17th victory and Eric Young hit his first homer in

more than a year, a three-run tie-breaker that moved host Texas within one game of Oakland in the AL West.

Rogers, pulled after giving up a walk and single to start the sixth, allowed just three runs and matched the 17 victories he had for Texas in 1995.

Francisco Cordero put runners on first and second with one out in the ninth before extending his team record with his 47th save.

White Sox 7, Twins 6: Paul Konerko hit a game-winning RBI single in the ninth for the host White Sox.

Wilson Valdez led off with a single off Joe Roa (2-3) and moved to second on Aaron Rowland's sacrifice. Roa then walked Willie Harris and Konerko followed with a single.

Indians 7, Tigers 6: Johnny Peralta's two-run double keyed visiting Cleveland's five-run sweep.

Josh Phelps homered for the Indians, who came back from a 3-0 deficit a night after overcoming a five-run deficit to win.

SPORTS



Maddux notches 17th consecutive
15-win season as Cubs keep pace with
Giants in NL wild-card race, Page 39

From pushover to mighty mite



Fullback Kyle Eckel (32), the workhorse of Navy's triple-option offense, is on pace to become only the third Midshipman to rush for 3,000 career yards. He has helped power Navy to its first 3-0 record since 1979.

After years of losing, Johnson has Navy bowling people over

BY DAVID GINSBURG
The Associated Press

ANNAPOLIS, Md. — With a 3-0 record for the first time in 25 years, Navy has proved it's possible to win without a 300-pound lineman or an athlete whose sole purpose for attending college is to hone his skills for the NFL.

"We're not the biggest guys, but we play with a lot of heart," quarterback Adam Polanco said. "Coach stresses that for us to win, we have to be in better shape and play harder than the other team."

When Paul Johnson accepted the daunting job as Navy's football coach in December 2001, the Midshipmen had enjoyed two winning seasons in 19 years. Johnson knew he couldn't alter the academy's stringent entrance requirements or arduous military obligations, so he set out to change the one thing he could control: the sense of doom that shrouded the once-proud program.

"I think the hardest thing was getting the attitude and work ethic changed," Johnson said this week. "But I think we've got the work ethic back. These guys work pretty hard. Like I tell them, the more you invest, the harder it is to lay down."

Their diligence has paid off. Navy went 8-5 last year and played in the Houston Bowl. Suddenly, tailgating and the pregame fly-by isn't the only attraction at Navy-Marine Corps Memorial Stadium on autumn Saturday afternoons.

"The school, the town, every-

one's into it now," senior fullback Kyle Eckel said. "The atmosphere is better when you win. Last year we picked up a lot of fans, and now the ball's rolling. It's catching on."

Johnson took over a team that went 1-10 in 2000 and 0-10 in 2001. Navy won its first game in 2002, then dropped 10 straight before beating Army in the finale.

"That first season was the longest year of my life," Johnson recalled. "I felt like we were getting

better, we just weren't winning any games. Certainly it's nice that all the hard work has paid off for everybody."

Said Polanco: "It's great to get some recognition. It helps recruiting, helps the program. It's a lot better feeling than the seniors had here their first year. Those were rough years."

The resurgence began in earnest last season, when Navy beat Air Force and Army to win the Commander In Chief's Trophy for the first time since 1981. Led by senior quarterback Craig Caneto, who ran for 1,112 yards and 16 touchdowns, the Midshipmen rolled to their first winning season since 1979.

But could it last?

That was the challenge facing Johnson and the Mids this year, and at this point it appears the answer is a resounding "Yes, Sir!"

"Last year we were fighting to win, fighting for respect, and we got some," Eckel said. "But coming into this season, people were saying, 'Craig's gone, it was a fluke' — things like that. You can't blame them after so many losing seasons. But we've worked hard to keep that respect, and now we're 3-0."

Rank and file

Paul Johnson took over as Navy's football coach in December 2001. The following is Navy's yearly record for the past nine seasons:

2003	8-5
2002	2-10
2001	0-10
2000	1-10
1999	5-7
1998	5-6
1997	7-4
1996	9-3
1995	5-6



■ **Clemson and Iowa face pressure**
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SEE MIGHTY ON PAGE 37

Tennis among three sports that will be limited only to DODDS schools in Far East tournaments

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Teammates stay loyal in race for Nextel Cup Page 33



Steelers QB Roethlisberger seeks to stop a trend in his first NFL start

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